

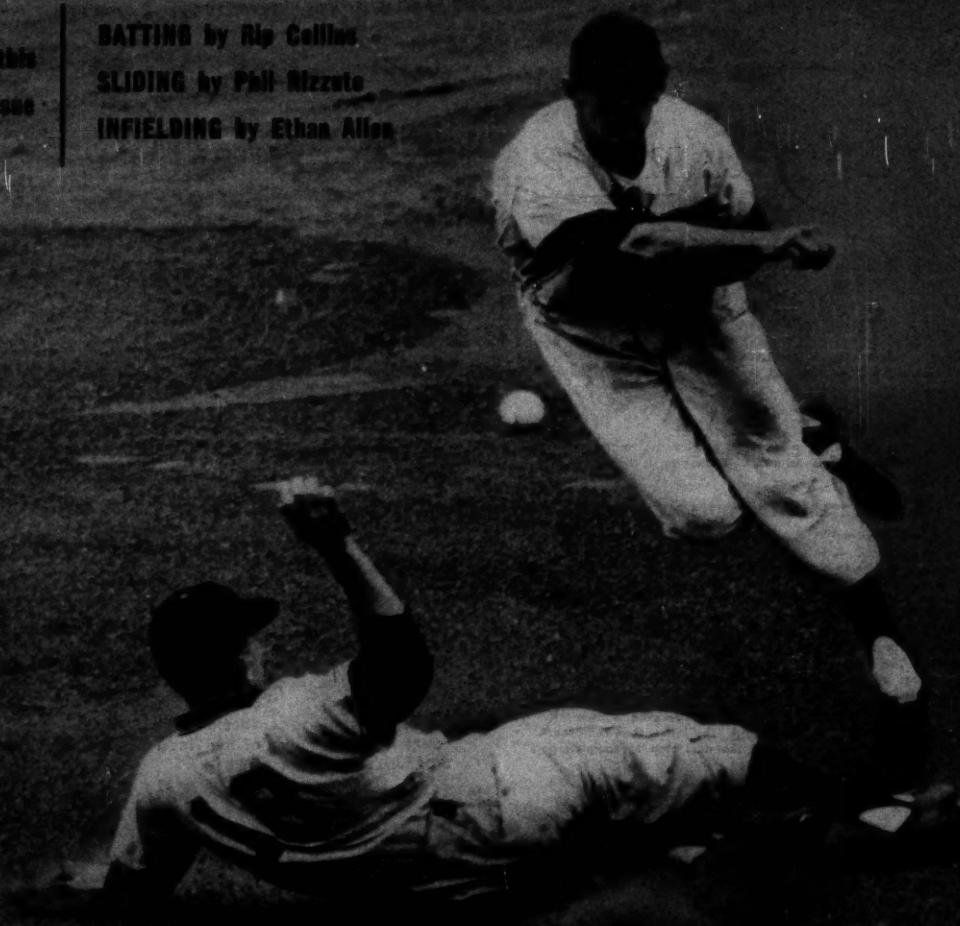
COACH

In this
issue

BATTING by Rip Collins

SLIDING by Phil Nizzuto

INFIELDING by Ethan Allen



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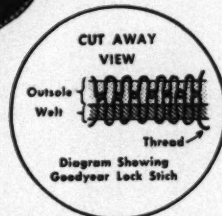
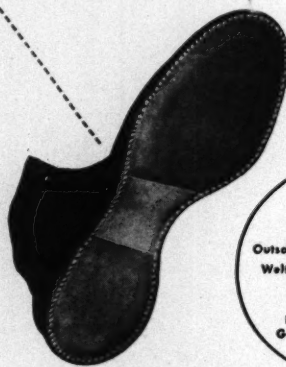
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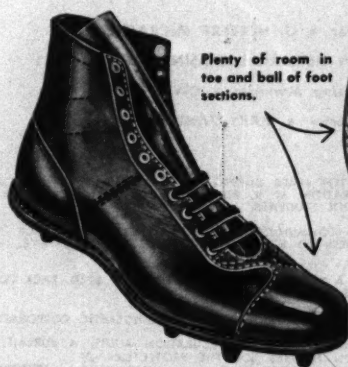
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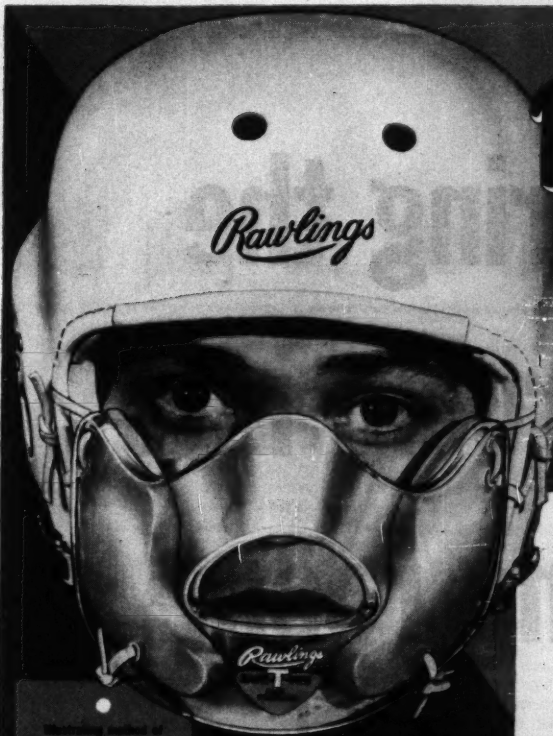
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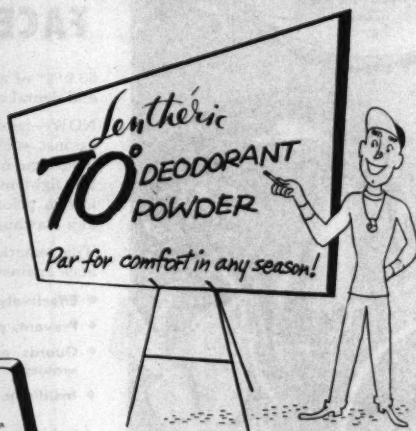
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Here
Below

Foul play on the hardwood

If we were a basketball rules doctor, we'd probably slash our wrists and let the whistles gush out. Life can't be beautiful for the Rule 1, Section 4, Item 6 medicine men. For years and years, they've been prescribing various antidotes for poisonous fouling, and in every instance they've wound up swallowing their own medicine.

Like most people, we thought the good men in white had finally discovered the magic drug this year. The one-and-one foul rule, with the automatic two-shot proviso for the last three minutes of play, seemed a sound, intelligent solution to the fouling problem.

Since the extra throw (in case the first was missed) would practically assure a team of a point every time they were fouled, it appeared logical to assume that the boys would become chary about lifting a hand in malice.

And since every foul in the last three minutes would automatically invoke two charity tosses, the rule seemed a cinch to throw the fear of H. V. Porter into the defense.

Alas, the best laid plans of mice and rules men frequently go astray, leaving us nought but grief and pain. That's what this rule did. Two weeks after the start of the 1952-53 season, it became apparent that the rule was going to lay just as big an egg as that two-minute horror of 1949-50 and the take-it-or-leave-it rules of the past two years.

The one-and-one opus hasn't discouraged fouling. It's just discouraged the spectators. Besides prolonging the game, it's discouraged the premium on skill by making the 50% foul shooter as effective as the 100% thrower.

The automatic two-throw proviso has also proved a failure. It's made a 37-minute game out of basketball. How can a trailing team make up any sort of deficit in the closing minutes when every foul invokes two penalty shots?

Any smart team with a lead can go into a stall at about the four-

minute mark. After freezing until the three-minute mark, they can play for a fouling situation. The point or two they can add to their lead in this fashion can practically put the game on ice.

We're not talking through our inflating needle. A survey of the first 22 big college games in the New York area showed that the team leading at the 37-minute mark won in 20 of the 22 instances—and in none of these cases was the lead more than six points!

Now it's easy to stick your fingers into a piece of swiss cheese. Making a better cheese is something else. It seems to us that our rules men have been derelict in one basic respect. They've been attacking the problem from the wrong direction.

They've been trying to eliminate the wild scrambling in the closing minutes by imposing severe restrictive measures against fouling. They've kept socking it into the de-

fense, and nothing has worked.

The rules men apparently fail to realize that a trailing team *must* resort to drastic measures against a team that's withholding the ball from them. Whether you penalize them one shot, two shots, or 10 shots, they'll continue to play the ball over-aggressively. They have no choice. Not to do so invites sure defeat.

Let's look at it syllogistically: Do you concede a team's right to freeze the ball? The answer is yes. Then: Do you agree that it's extremely difficult to wrest the ball from a team merely intent on holding on to it? The answer again is yes.

Now, if you give a team the right to freeze the ball and you grant that it's very tough to take it away from them, you've got to expect plenty of fouling when possession becomes all important. Nothing will eliminate this fouling.

The idea is to arrive at some restrictive formula that's equitable to both the offense and defense. If you keep socking it into the defense, as the rules men have been doing, you'll be tinkering with two-minute rules until doom's-day.

So far we've been impressed by only two possibilities. One is to adopt the pro rule which calls for a jump at the foul line after every successful free throw in the last two minutes. Though this doesn't totally discourage fouling tactics, it does give the trailing team a much fairer opportunity to come from behind than the high school and college rule.

The other suggestion, relayed by an officiating buddy, "King Kong" Klein, is a variation of the pro rule. Instead of the jump, however, Judge Klein would permit the team converting the free throw (in the last two minutes) to retain possession—taking the ball out at mid-court.

The philosophy underlying this recommendation is this: Basketball is a pressure game. A team should
(Concluded on page 34)

American Sport Festival

FROM mid-April through mid-May, everybody in the school field will have a fine opportunity to mirror and dramatize the democratic meaning of sports by participating in a giant Mid-Century Festival of American Sport.

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By W. HAROLD O'CONNOR
Track Coach, Concord (Mass.) High School

Case for the INSIDE PASS

CONSIDERING the importance of the baton exchange in relay racing, surprisingly little enterprise has been exhibited in the development of time-saving devices.

Most coaches are convinced that the traditional pass from the passer's left hand to the receiver's right hand is the only style worth consideration. They may argue about whether the visual or non-visual pass is more desirable in given situations, but they think only in terms of the left to right exchange.

Recently, dozens of high school relay teams have begun to turn in times under :44 for the quarter, under 1:33 for the half, and under 3:30 for the mile—while college quartets have been flirting with :41s, 1:27's, and 3:20's, respectively.

I'm certain that a closer study of the pass and its possibilities will bring these times down even more. One of the more modern developments which deserves every coach's consideration is the so-called *inside pass*.

This pass reverses the usual procedure. Instead of going from left hand to right hand, it's effected from *right hand to left*. Along with George Eastment, highly successful Manhattan College coach, and a few others who've been using it, I'm convinced that the pass has definite merit—*under certain conditions*.

Quite a few high school coaches have been asking me for more details on its use, and I'd like to present the facts in a clear, orderly fashion.

First of all, I strongly favor the inside pass for all relays up to and including the mile *whenever my team draws the inside lane*. I like it especially for crowded heats where the teams must hold their lanes. If the competition promises to be tough, and my team draws

the inside lane, I like it even better.

How often have you seen a tight race broken open in the exchange zone by two incoming runners swerving into each other or blocking progress as they over-stretch and stumble to the right and either jostle an opponent or fall across his path?

I believe that you can avoid this congestion and reduce the danger of a dropped baton by using the inside pass (when on the pole). If you know your team's pole position well in advance of the meet, as is true of the big relay carnivals, you can give extra emphasis to the inside pass in your pre-meet preparations.

Let's see how it works in actual competition. We'll assume that the team in the second lane is using the traditional left-to-right pass. The race starts and your lead-off man (on the pole) battles his opponent (in second lane) right into the passing zone.

Remember, your boy is carrying the baton in his *right* hand. Your No. 2 man awaits with his back to the field, facing the infield, with his left hand back. Thus, both your passer and receiver are leaning away from the second lane.

Meanwhile, the opponents' lead-off man is reaching out with his left hand to place the baton in his teammate's right hand. Both these boys tend to face more in the direction opposite your boys. This reduces the likelihood of their bumping arms or bodies.

After completing his pass to the inside, your lead-off man merely steps off to the inside of the track, thus avoiding any possibility of colliding with runners who've completed their legs of the race and are either going straight ahead, perhaps weaving slightly, or thought-



Here's the inside pass (right-hand-to-left-hand) worked from the pole lane by Colgate U. at the Penn Relays some years ago. As you can quickly see, this type of exchange turns the runners away from the congestion rather than toward it.

lessly turning to the outside across the paths of other runners.

In short, the inside pass turns your boys away from the congestion rather than toward it.

Another strong point in its favor is its psychological value for green runners in tight races. Inexperienced boys often become rattled when they see a scramble developing around them in the passing zone. The inside pass turns them away from the congestion and enables them to concentrate on taking the baton. A boy who's inclined to get

(Continued on page 52)

Batting on the Level

By JAMES (RIP) COLLINS

Former National League Homer-R.B.I. King

WHEN Mickey Mantle exploded into the limelight two springs ago, baseball fans sat up and rubbed their eyes. Here was a kid of 19, with only one season of Class C ball behind him, who was busting the ball consistently and powerfully from either side of the plate!

Even today, though Mickey has been a big leaguer for two years, his switch hitting is still a source of wonder. Not that he's the game's only two-way batter. Red Schoendienst, for example, has been doing it for years. But it's the power that Mantle gets from either side that astonishes fans and experts alike.

Though ambidextrous hitters are rarities nowadays, they were relatively common several decades ago. Since I batted both ways, people often ask, "If you were teaching youngsters how to become good hitters, would you advise them to choose one side of the plate from which to hit and stick with it—or to adopt the switch-hitting style?"

Seems like a tough question to answer, eh? Actually, it isn't tough at all. My advice to the youngster is to give switch hitting a good, thorough trial for maybe a season. Then he should get someone who knows the game well—a coach preferably—to tell him frankly if he has a chance to develop into a good two-way hitter.

Nine out of ten young ball players won't. If all they can hope for is to develop into a mediocre switch hitter, they should forget it immediately and start working on their most natural style—the side of the plate from which they can develop the best swing.

The advantage of switch hitting is fairly obvious. Regardless of the pitching, the boy can hit from the percentage side of the plate—and this particular phase of hitting is receiving more and more emphasis in recent years.

Look at the two-platoon lineups used by such great managers as Casey Stengel, which utilize all the team's right-handed strength against a southpaw pitcher, and vice versa.

Billy Southworth, who successfully piloted the St. Louis Cardinals and Boston Braves to National League pennants, went a long way toward popularizing the percentage pinch hitter. Southworth even substituted more than once for a batter to make sure, for instance, he had a right handed hitter in against a left-handed pitcher.

So if you can switch-hit well enough to maintain a good average against good pitching, you do have an added advantage over the majority of batters.

It's almost impossible to tell a hitter or someone wanting to be a hitter how to sock that ball. The simplest way—really the only way—to teach hitting is actually to see the player swing a bat. Then you

can pick out his flaws and make suggestions for correcting them.

Choosing a bat that feels right in your hands in a vitally important step. The boy should make sure the bat is neither too heavy nor too light. Experience has shown that many players pick up a light bat and say, "This is it!" But when they start to swing, the bat comes around so fast that they must hold up, thereby losing power.

Next, there's a *right* way to hold a bat to get the best wrist action. The player should pick the bat up in his fingers, then roll it back in his hands. He'll find that this gives him a good grip and that his wrists won't lock when he swings. The hitter must be careful not to grip the bat too tightly or he will lose wrist action.

Now that the batter has a solid, confident grip on the bat, he should walk up to the plate, lean over in his normal stance, and see if he can reach the outside of the plate with the end of his bat. If he can, he's standing the right distance away, and can readily reach the outside pitch.

His stance should be a comfortable one, not a mere imitation of someone else's. Youngsters starting out should try placing their feet about 12 inches apart, keeping their balance over both feet. Without this balance, the hitter will overstride.

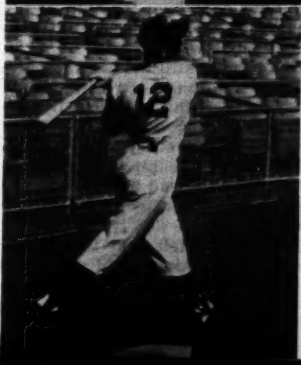
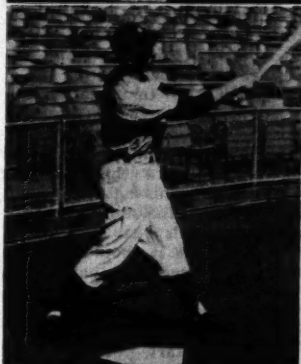
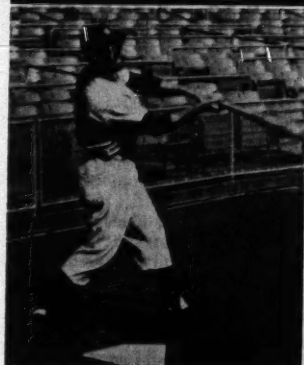
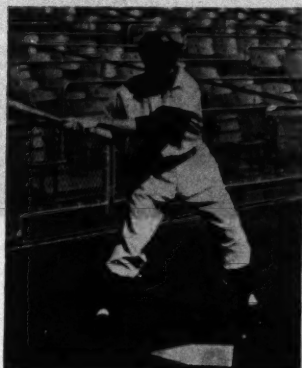
The shoulders should be level at all times, and both eyes should be trained on the pitcher. A lot of boys are content merely to glance at him.

As the pitcher is about to deliver, the relaxed batter should bring his bat back slowly. This back-swing is tough to explain, and it's better to show a hitter what you mean rather than tell him. He must be shown the importance of timing his back-swing precisely so that he won't be caught between swings. When this

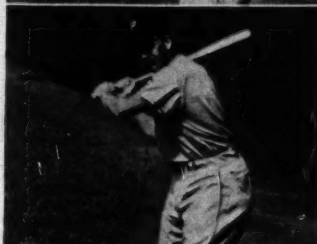
(Concluded on page 67)

BASEBALL fans will remember Rip Collins as the slugging first baseman of the immortal St. Louis Cardinal Gashouse Gang. The only switch hitter ever to lead a major league in home runs and runs batted in, Rip hit over .300 in four of his nine big league years and starred in three world series. He then stepped down to the minors and started a brand new career as a playing manager. At the age of 40, he was selected Minor League Player of the Year and received the Silver Bat for topping the minor leagues with a resounding .396 batting average. Since retiring from active play, Collins has been hitting the fences for the baseball sales and promotion staff of the Wilson Sporting Goods Co.

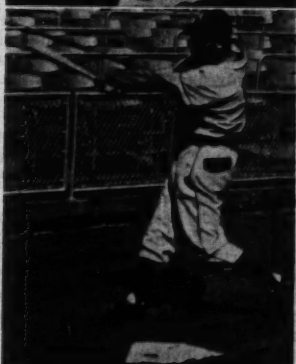
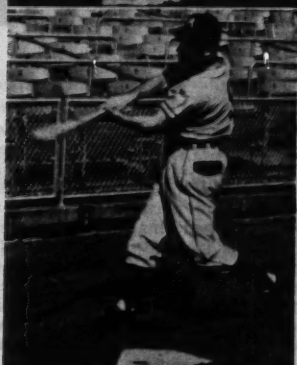
GIL McDOUGALD
New York Yankees

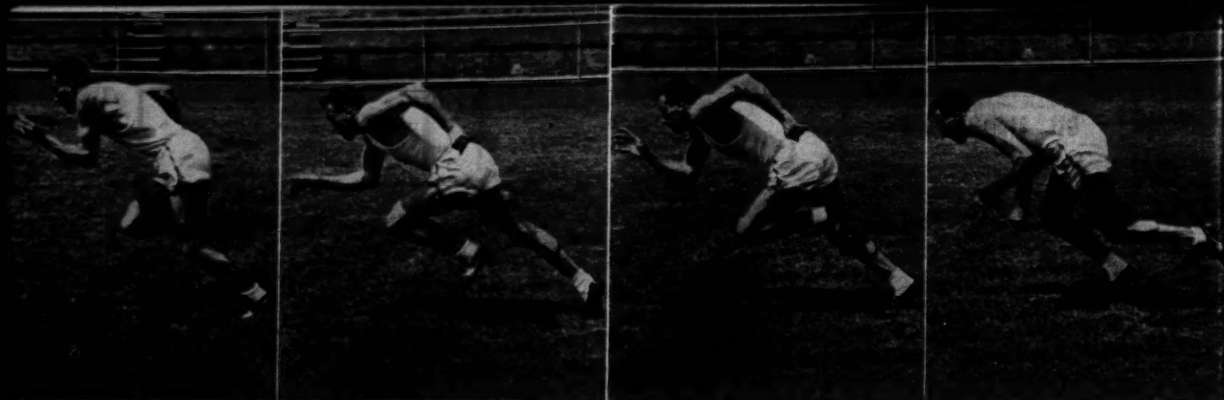


RALPH KINER
Pittsburgh Pirates



FERRIS FAIN
Chicago White Sox





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SPRINTING from start to finish

THE teaching theories of every coach represent the sum of all his experiences—his exposure to coaching, his participation as an athlete, his personal observations and study, and his work as a coach.

In this treatise on sprinting, I'd like to present the ideas I have thus assimilated. They detail a clearcut method of starting, striding, and finishing. In applying them, however, the wise coach will allow for individual differences.

Since physical structures vary, and one type cannot be deemed superior to another, certain variations will prove necessary. The stocky, short-legged sprinter may have to use a different start, stride, or finish than the long-legged, hungry-looking sprinter. But, with proper body mechanics, both will break the tape in about the same time.

We've all heard the saying that sprinters are born and not made. This certainly is true. But I've never known a champion who didn't get that way either by correcting certain basic faults, by working hard to train or condition himself, or by fighting to overcome some mental block.

These champions were born with exceptional coordination, leg speed, and strength. Few had their techniques or style completely altered, but all had their basic fundamentals modified.

In the following paragraphs, I'll try to analyze these fundamentals as I've observed and experienced them.

The crouch start is the most controversial part of the dash. Most runners start with their left foot forward. I don't know the reason

for this. Personally, I kept my right foot forward.

I reasoned that since most of the pressure at the start is exerted by the front foot and that since this pressure is greater and longer lasting than the pressure from the back foot, it seemed logical to place the stronger foot forward.

Since I was right-handed and right-footed, the choice naturally fell to the right foot. It made sense to let my stronger foot bear the responsibility of moving most of my body weight quickly from the stationary position.

Regardless of what foot is forward, it is placed somewhere between 10 and 18 inches behind the starting line—depending upon the placement of the rear foot and the hands. Let's assume the left foot is forward, since most sprinters start that way.

The right (rear) leg is planted so that the knee is slightly ahead of the front foot. Now, with the right foot and knee on the ground, the sprinter leans forward so that the upper leg comes at right angles to the ground. This forces the back to be parallel with the track.

The arms are dropped straight down from the shoulders and nearly parallel to the rear upper leg. The hands are then moved three to six inches toward the foot and knee to form a mild V between the arms and rear upper leg. The hands are

placed just behind the line, with the thumb and index finger parallel to the line.

GET SET POSITION

Now the sprinter is on his marks, ready for the "get set" command. His weight is evenly divided, making his position comfortable, and the rear leg muscles aren't tight and tense due to any leaning back on the haunches.

To "get set," the sprinter simply raises his buttocks slowly, and leans slightly forward. The arms are kept from flexing at the elbows and the hands are in a tripod position.

The hips come to a stop above the shoulders. The correct hip elevation can be determined two ways. First, they should never be raised to a point where the rear leg straightens out. This is the way John Treloar of Australia started in 1948; consequently, his rear foot didn't move as fast as it should, and he was standing erect very early.

The second key to hip elevation is to watch the hips as the sprinter starts. If the hips move noticeably down on the start, you know the hips have been kept too high. If the hips move up, they've been positioned too low.

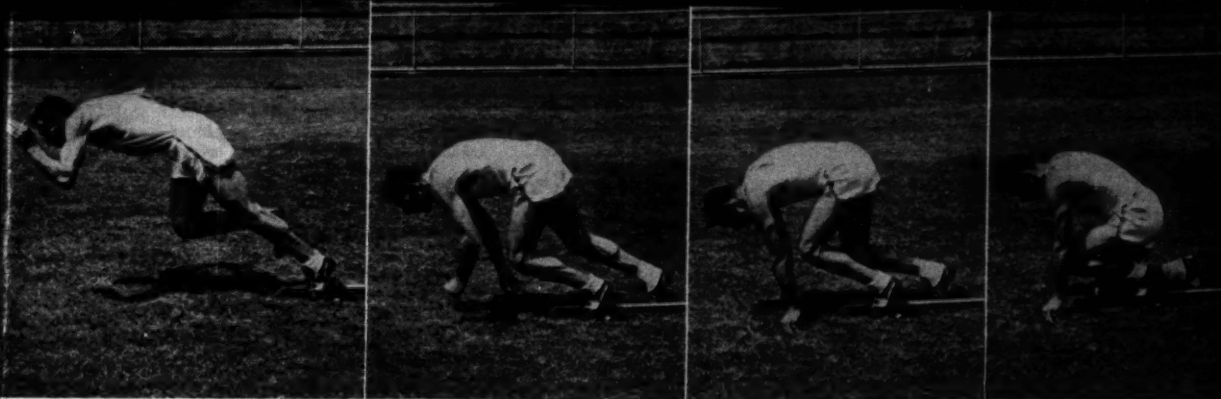
The head is still held in line with the body. No undue stress is placed on the neck. The eyes usually are looking at a spot from three to ten feet down the track.

Now, with the hips up and forward, and the head in line with the body, the runner is ready for the starting pistol.

I've always felt that the runner should be thinking about the gun—

By MEL PATTON

World Record Holder, 100 Yards
Track Coach, Long Beach City College



4

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2

1

LINDY REMIGINO Olympic 100 Meters Champion

thinking when the gun will fire, but not moving until the report is actually heard. The sprinter shouldn't try to out-guess the starter, but should keep his mind alert by listening for the starting gun.

Once the report is heard, a number of movements must be immediately made. Tremendous pressure must be exerted by the feet to start the body moving. The greater amount of pressure is exerted by the front foot, in roughly a three-to-one ratio. The rear foot immediately starts forward, close to the ground. The high arc, which is so commonly seen, wastes valuable time. The foot must be placed in front of the hands; therefore, the quickest way is in a straight line, relatively close to the ground, rather than in a slow and awkward arc.

While most of the pressure is being brought against the block by the front foot and the rear foot is moving toward the first step, the arms are working, too—their job being that of balance and thrust.

The arm on the side of the lead leg is thrust sharply forward, while the other arm moves backward. The forward thrust movement should be of head height, and approximately 12 inches in front of the head.

It isn't a pick-up and push-back motion with the hands. It's a vigorous arm action. This action may be increased by exercising a little imagination. The runner may pretend a shelf or object is slightly in front of him at head height. At the gun, he should think in terms of grabbing for this object and quickly bringing it down.

(Continued on page 68)

THOUGH the sprint sensation of 1952 may not be classified as a "picture" runner, he does exploit his natural ability to the fullest—which is all a coach can ask of an athlete. Let's see how he takes his first two steps from a modified bunch start.

NO. 1: Note the natural position of Lindy's head in the on-mark position. We don't believe in keeping the head up. We like to keep it "natural."

NO. 2: To get set, Lindy comes up and leans as far forward as possible, distributing his weight evenly over the arms and the front (left) foot.

NO. 3: At "go," Remigino drives hard with his front foot and brings his rear (right) foot forward with a lifting rather than pushing action—though there's some push, too.

NO. 4: The arm on the lead-leg side (left) is driven forward sharply, while the other arm is moved backward. Note how the right knee is brought forward close to the ground. This is vitally important. Many boys lift it too high, thus getting upward rather than forward motion—raising the body to the erect position too soon.

NO. 5: End of first step. Remigino covers about two feet with his initial step. Note that the knee is properly ahead of the ankle. Where the ankle lands ahead of the knee, the athlete is over-striding.

NOS. 6-8: The perfect line from shoulder to heel indicates the tremendous drive being generated by the low, gradually rising body. The idea of the first step is to put the body in position to accelerate to maximum speed in the shortest possible time.

Track students will be interested to know that Remigino normally starts with the right foot on a direct line behind the left foot! Lindy believes this helps him get out in a straight line, preventing the normal tendency to bring the right foot too far to the side. Though it seems to outrage every principle of efficient body mechanics, it works!—and we're now teaching it to other young sprinters.

By **GEORGE EASTMENT**, Track Coach, Manhattan College

Excerpt from Ethan Allen's new book,
Baseball (see page 56 for review)

General Infield Defense

By **ETHAN ALLEN**, Coach, Yale University

THOUGH each infielder has specific duties to perform, many common defensive points must be related and coordinated for a good infield defense.

FIELDING FLY BALLS

Infielders attempt to catch all fly balls in their territory, as well as those over the pitching mound, and keep after the ball unless another player calls "I have it." All of these balls rotate away from the catcher, if there is little wind, because the batter cuts under the ball. Thus, infielders know that a ball over the infield will rotate toward them, and that the one in outfield territory will rotate away from them.

The first and third basemen are especially alert on balls toward the plate because the catcher is sometimes late in starting for the ball. The first and third basemen, on the other hand, are often playing short, and as a result cannot reach many balls in back of the infield. These are usually easy chances for the second baseman and shortstop.

In fact, the shortstop and second

baseman are the logical fielders of most short fly balls in outfield territory unless the fly is near enough for an outfielder to make the catch. Outfielders can usually catch these balls in better position to throw.

On many such balls, it is better for an infielder to keep out of the outfield so that collisions will not occur. This particularly concerns what appears to be difficult chances. Such a practice increases the efficiency of outfielders, and eliminates the likelihood of fly balls falling between two or three players.

When two players go after the same ball, some base is, of course, left uncovered. The player not calling for the ball returns to the bag. If the fly ball is in foul or outfield territory, an infielder should run into the diamond with the ball after making the catch if there are runners on base, unless an immediate throw is necessary.

FIELDING GROUND BALLS

An infielder normally catches ground balls as described and illustrated in Chapter I. The maneuver into the fielding position is the main factor in catching most ground balls as well as in making a subsequent throw. This generally requires an advance rather than a retreat so that the player can make the catch at the height of the bounce, or just after a bounce occurs, and complete his throw.

Hard-hit balls and slow-rolling balls all require special handling. The former is frequently blocked because the batter can usually be retired even though the ball may not be fielded cleanly.

FIELDING A GROUNDER

Peewee Reese, the peerless Brooklyn Dodger shortstop, demonstrates the correct way of making the basic fielding play. From an alert, crouched position with hands on knees, he comes in for the ball—keeping low—and fields it with both hands out in front of the body opposite the front foot. Having the time, he takes a short hop for momentum, straightens up, and throws with a free, loose, overhand motion.

SCHOLASTIC COACH

Most slow-hit balls are fielded with two hands, in the same manner as the average grounder, but it is necessary to field some of them in motion; otherwise the runner will be safe. The throw is made simultaneously with the picking up of the ball, and the body continues in the direction of the approach to the ball. In some cases the bare hand is used to field the ball.

Two hands are usually employed when ordinary slow-rolling balls are fielded because there is less likelihood of the ball being fumbled. On the other hand, the one-hand method is favored when the element of missing the ball must be discounted.

Another variation in footwork occurs when it is necessary to go directly to the side to stop the ball. In this case the catch is made with the feet in a straddle position, and the ball is often flipped to the receiver without the aid of a step.

The speed of a player is frequently checked in fielding such a ball by sliding on the inside of the foot nearest the ball. This is especially effective when a right-hand thrower goes to the right, or a left-hand thrower to the left. In some instances the slide on the inside of the foot follows the catching of the ball. This occasionally happens on high bounding balls.

If a ball is fielded close to a bag, and a force-out and possible double play can be made, an infielder generally steps on the bag with his right foot and then in the direction of the throw with his left foot. A first sacker who throws left-handed, of course, uses reverse foot action, and a right-hand first baseman may step on the bag with his left foot prior to stepping in the direction of the throw with the same foot.

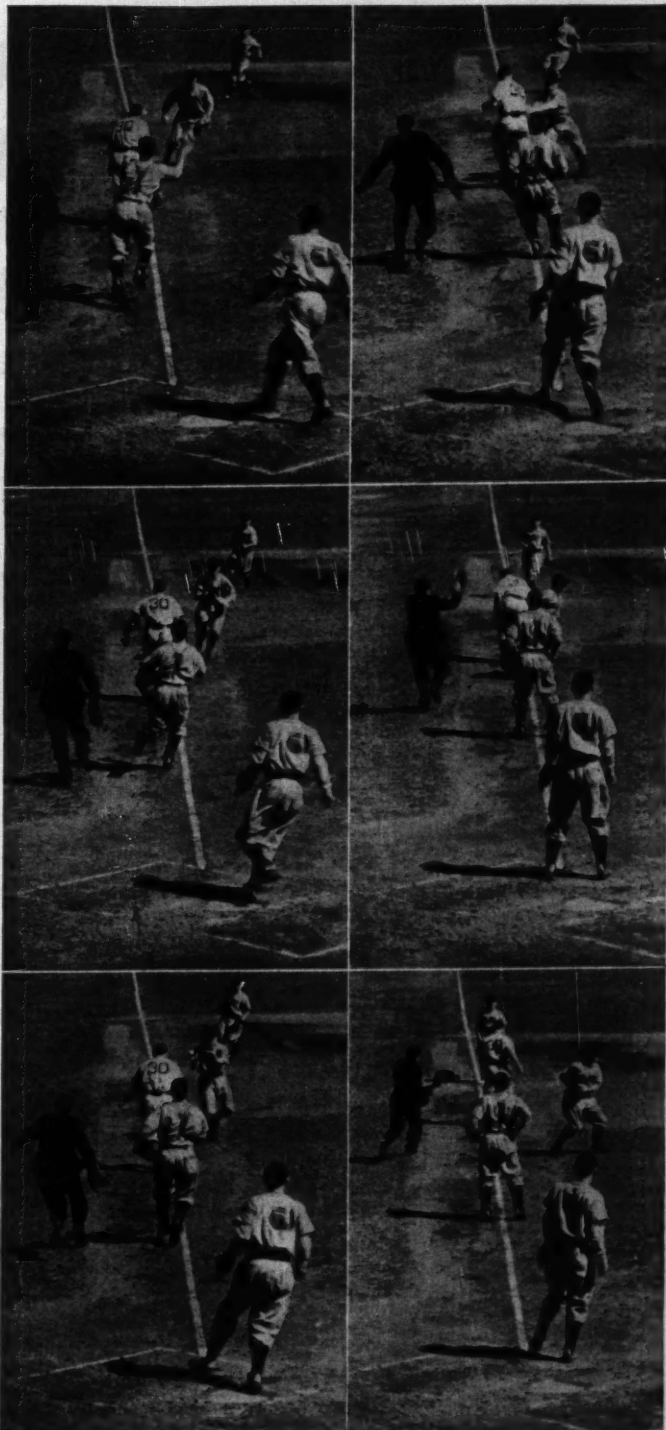
When making only a force-out under similar circumstances, an infielder steps on the bag and either continues in the direction of his approach or steps back from the bag just as if a thrown ball had been received.

Throws by the infielders are made overhand, sidearm, or underhand, de-

(Continued on page 54)

THE RUN-DOWN

Runner is trapped between third and home. Note how (1) the third baseman moves in and to the side of the runner to take the catcher's throw, (2) the shortstop covers third, and (3) the pitcher covers the plate. The runner is forced back to the far base, and the throw is made with a wrist-forearm action. Particularly note how the third baseman, after making the tag, alertly steps into the diamond for a possible play.



Mile Relay Racing

By DICK LACEY

Coach, Pelham (N. Y.) High School

IN early spring (April, to be exact), a track coach's fancy lightly turns to the thoughts of relays! Penn, Drake, Seton Hall, and the rest of the big carnivals beckon. And the high school coach is confronted with his yearly \$64 question: Should I try to put together a relay team? And, if so, how?

Most high schools—particularly the smaller ones—can usually send but a single relay unit to one of the big baton-passing extravaganzas; and as 90% of the interscholastic races in this type of meet are mile relays, the coach's problem is clear-cut: How can he find and train four boys who can run good quarter miles?

The first thing to remember is that you don't have to have four quartermilers, as such to produce a respectable mile outfit. The coach of the average small to medium-sized school should aim to assemble the four boys who can run the fastest 440, regardless of what their regular distances are.

Too many high school coaches seem to feel that if a boy is primarily a miler—or thinks he is—that's the limit of what he can do. Or, if he's a sprinter, he can run nothing else. There's no reason at all why a dash man, half miler, or miler cannot be trained to run a good quarter.

So, if you don't happen to be blessed with four real quartermilers (and what small high school coach is?), try out your dash men at the distance. Usually a boy who runs a good 220 will be able, with comparatively little training, to produce a decent 440 for you. Then take the 880 runners and milers who seem to have the most speed. Try them out at a 440 and see which are the fastest.

Plan to run a series of quarter-mile trials early in April for all your relay candidates the real quartermilers plus the best of the dash men and middle-distance runners.

From these tryouts, you should be able to determine your four best boys. And don't be surprised if some of the sprinters and milers beat the men you thought were genuine quartermilers!

The best mile relay team—a 3:30 outfit—we ever had at Pelham (where we have a boys' enrollment of about 200), was put together in just this way. It included one sprinter, one half miler, one miler, and a 440 man. Only one of the so-called regular quartermilers on the squad made the team!

Once you've chosen your unit, you'll probably find that you'll have to give each of the four more or less specialized training.

If you have one or more natural sprinters on the team, you'll have to build them up to a quarter. This can be done by a pretty steady diet of 500's and 600's. Assuming they're genuine sprinters, you can let their speed work go. In these 500's and 600's, have them emphasize the finish.

Most sprinters hate to run this far, but you can sell them the idea

that it will not only prepare them for the mile relay, but will make their 220's later in the season seem like nothing at all.

Conversely, if you have milers or half milers on your foursome, you must give them speed work and more speed work. Plenty of 300's and even 220's are in order here. They'll dislike this kind of work just as much as the sprinters hate 500's, but don't let it bother you. They'll be better at their regular distances later on for having done it.

As time for the relay meets approaches, you will, of course, have to decide upon the best possible running order for your foursome. There are no hard and fast rules, since so much depends upon the type of runners you have. But some general principles may be followed.

Naturally, it's pretty standard procedure to place your fastest man last, though there are arguments for running him elsewhere (which I'll mention later). Generally speaking, your slowest member will run in the second slot, and your fastest starter first. The number three leg will often go to the second fastest boy.

If you have a good sprinter on the team, run him first by all means. Even if he has a weak finish, chances are that he won't get caught in any traffic jams at the start and should be able to put you up there in the crowded fields often prevalent in big relay meets.

Much depends on the coach's knowing exactly what type of runners his boys are. Some do better when in front, others when behind. Remember this and place them accordingly.

A fine illustration of this was the New Rochelle H. S. quartet which
(Continued on page 42)



Underhand visual pass, fastest exchange extant for mile relay. Outgoing man extends arm back at about 30° angle, with thumb and forefinger forming a wide V. Incoming teammate slips baton into this V with an upward motion. (Photo courtesy Don Canham, U. of Michigan)

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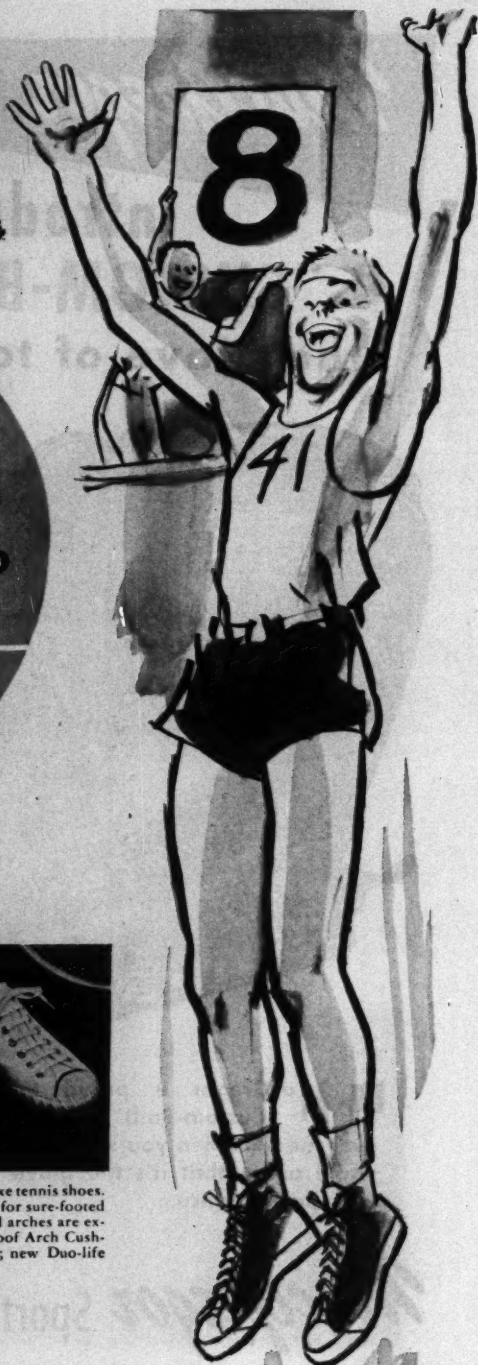
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By S. F. VINCENT REEL

Coach, Woodrow Wilson H. S., Long Beach, Cal.

A High School Decathlon

ONE of the most eagerly awaited athletic events at Wilson H.S. (Long Beach, Cal.) is the annual track and field decathlon championship. Held before the opening of the dual-meet season, it represents an excellent early season conditioner and is a great help in determining team strength in each event.

It also offers the athlete a chance to discover an unsuspected talent in some new event, and to see exactly how he stacks up against his teammates in each event, thus indicating

the events in which he stands the best chance of making the team. As an interest-stimulator and interest-preserver, it simply cannot be beaten.

The ten events include the 100-yard dash, 220-yard dash, 660-yard run, 70-yard high hurdles, 120-yard low hurdles, high jump, broad jump, pole vault, 10-lb. shot put, and hop-step-jump.

The boys are graded from 10 to 1000 points in each event. Our decathlon scale was worked out in 1940 and revised in 1951.

H	9.9	10.1	10.4	11.4	11.5	9.8	10.7	11.7	11.0	11.6	10.3
H	460	430	400	300	290	480	370	270	340	280	410
100	10.8	11.2	11.8	11.2	12.0	11.4	11.0	11.4	11.3	11.2	11.6
100	590	390	270	390	250	310	350	310	320	330	290
100	850	760	670	630	540	790	720	580	660	610	700
S	47'11"	38'2"	53'2"	38'2"	41'7"	34'8"	29'8"	27'1"	32'9"	30'3"	35'0"
S	570	420	280	280	190	240	310	210	270	180	310
P	6'6"	10'6"	9'6"	5'6"	5'6"	10'6"	5'6"	8'6"	5'6"	5'6"	9'6"
P	170	40	350	110	110	410	110	290	110	110	350
P	320	2880	3150	2400	2050	2880	2210	2650	2160	1990	2470
V	1:39.5	1:41.1	1:42.2	1:33.4	1:37.1	1:36.9	1:43.0	1:41.0	1:43.8	1:39.7	1:39.9
V	360	320	290	510	420	420	270	320	260	350	350
660	3480	3200	3440	2910	2470	3260	2480	2370	2420	2340	2820
TOTAL POINTS	BECKMAN	BRUCE	BURCHFIELD	CALLAN	COVERDALE	DAVIS	JORDAN	MARLEY	M'GINLEY	M'SWEEEN	MOBLEY

So great has been the popularity of our decathlon that the Long Beach Sports Boosters, a group of enthusiastic local sportsmen, started an "All City" high school decathlon in 1948. Held late in June, it employs the Wilson point system.

Since neighboring schools and colleges have also requested copies of our point scale, there's obviously an interest in decathlons and this article is designed to help others stage similar events.

We usually take a week for the event, with competition held in the three weight divisions used in Southern California—Varsity, Class B, and Class C. We usually have about 110 to 135 boys competing.

In our normal schedule, the high hurdles and the shot put are held the first day. Since the high hurdles is probably the most intimidating event, we like to run it first while the athletes' interest is at a pitch. We run two or three men at a time, clocking each man.

The shot put was a problem at first. Since in inter-school competition, the Varsity uses the 12-lb. shot, the B's the 10-pounder, and the C's the 8-lb. weight, we were in something of a dilemma. We finally decided on the middle weight (10 lbs.) as a compromise.

The reason for holding the shot put the first day is that most putters aren't too adept at the other events, and by staging their pet event right off (along with the high hurdles in which there are few proficient performers) we could be certain that the putters would be up among the leaders at the close of the day's competition, thus giving them a chance for a little glory.

We limit the puts to three per man, and save much time by letting them take all three trials at one time.

The 100-yard dash and the broad jump are held on the second day. The runners are sent off two or three at a time, while the jumpers are given three tries. The latter's efforts are measured from the spot

4 Tally Sheet for the scoring of the events. Note how the score is kept accumulatively. Refer to the first vertical column. The boy (Beckman) did the high hurdles in 9.9, for which he received 460 points. He did the 100 in 10.8. This earned him 390 points, as shown in the split box underneath. The other figure in the split box, 850, represents the addition of 460 and 390. The scoring is thus totaled as you go along.

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of take-off, not from the board.

The main reason for this is that with more than 100 jumpers there would be so many "markers" down the runway that nobody would know which was which. Another reason for our leniency stems from the fact that most men haven't had the chance to perfect their take-off so early in the season. In the All-City decathlon, however, strict rules are adhered to.

The third day is devoted to the low hurdles and the high jump. The high jump introduces a new problem. With more than 100 boys competing, the time factor is distressing. However, the following system is serving well.

We start competition at 4-6 and give each man only two tries. If he doesn't clear that height, he's given credit for 4 ft. and collects 170 points. The bar is then raised to 4-9, with each man again getting only two tries.

At 5 ft. and over, we allow the usual three attempts, for by this time most of the amateur leapers are no longer with us. Last year, for example, we had 119 men in the event and only 23 were still jumping at 5 ft.

The pole vault and the 220-yard dash are held on the fourth day. We start vaulting competition at 6 ft., allow two tries per man, and urge the good vaulters to pass. If the individual fails at 6 ft., we give him credit for 5-6, which carries 110 points. Our only requisite is that the man make at least one bona fide effort at the height (6 ft.). In other words, the points cannot be made without effort.

On the fifth day, we finish up with the 660-yard run, running five men at a time. The *piece de resistance* of the day is a special race among the five overall point leaders (covering the first four days). We always run these boys together, giving the pole position to the No. 5 leader and the fifth lane to the No. 1 man.

As you'd expect, these "championship" races provide lots of suspense and excitement. Most of the time the five leaders are so close in the standings that the championship hinges on the outcome of the race.

What about the hop-step-jump, do you say? Well, we no longer include this event in our early season decathlon, since we feel it's too tough for athletes not in top shape. However, it's very much part of the All-City event at the end of the season.

The decathlon scoring is done on tally sheets, which facilitate the keeping of running scores. With large groups of participants, it's advisable to make out the field event

cards in the same order as the tally sheets to expedite the transfer of the marks.

To publicize the decathlon and to announce the daily results, a huge scoring chart—attractively prepared in color—is made out for each of the three divisions. For years we posted these charts in the boys' gym. Recently, however, we've started using the foyer of the main building, and have found that interest and results have improved. It's amazing how much extra effort these young athletes will put out when they know the distaff members of the student body will see the results.

In addition to the scoring chart, I've always made a poster for each division, indicating the top ten in each day's events and the top ten in the overall scoring.

The Wilson scoring record for the decathlon (nine events only) is 4290 points made by Mel Patton in 1942. This is not the Mel Patton, now track coach at Long Beach City College. However, our Patton was quite a versatile performer, as his marks of 10 flat in the hundred, 5-11 in the high jump, 11-9 in the pole vault, and 49-1 in the shot put will attest. He did, however, have the advantage of competing in the decathlon at the end of the season when he was in excellent condition.

COMPETE IN ALL EVENTS

Last year's winner, Larry Newquist, missed the record by only 40 points, and he did it at the beginning of the season. Newquist's downfall was his inability to clear 6 ft. in the pole vault.

At Wilson, in order to hold a "Decathlon Record," the individual must compete in all the events. He can't come out and compete in just his specialty for the sake of a record. The same holds true of the All-City Decathlon Records.

The advantages of finding out each man's ability in all the events are numerous. A few years ago Jim Cubbison, a tall, skinny youth, six-feet-four and 155 pounds, decided he'd like to be a runner and came out for track. He was none too impressive in his work-outs, and for the first three days of the decathlon his marks were very average.

On the fourth day, however, came the 220-yard dash. His mark wasn't anything to shout about, an ordinary :24.8. But before I could tell him his time, he turned around and ran back to the start (another 220 yards), to return the track shoes he had borrowed. Then he galloped back to the finish (another furlong),

(Concluded on page 70)

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By JIM LEIGHTON, Jr.
Tennis Coach, Presbyterian College

That Budge Backhand

WHENEVER a tennis bull session veers around to backhands, the discussion will begin and end with the backhand of all backhands—Don Budge's. For the famous Budge backhand ranks as one of the great shots in tennis, along with Billy Johnston's forehand, Vinnie Richards' volley, and Ellsworth Vines' overhead.

As Sarah Palfrey Cooke writes (in *Winning Tennis*): "Don's was and probably still is the most powerful and consistent backhand in the history of tennis. It's a thing of beauty and simplicity. Don can hit it from any height, above his shoulder, below his waist, anywhere. He can hit it late or early; he prefers to hit it on the rise or at the top of the bounce. He can hit cross-court or down the line, deep or short. In other words, he can do ANYTHING with it!"

In this article I'd like to present an accurate picture of how Budge hits his backhand, with emphasis on fundamental features that will help improve anyone's backhand.

My analysis is based upon personal conversations with the great backhander, observation of his play, a study of a USLTA film covering both instruction and Budge's play in the 1938 Nationals, Budge's excellent book, *Budge on Tennis*, and some of the instructional ideas used by Tom Stowe, Don's famous teacher.

For simplicity, we'll break the backhand down into six separate parts: (1) position, (2) back swing, (3) forward swing, (4) point of hit, (5) follow through, (6) the ending.

Several interesting points come to light under "position." For instance, Budge's feet are more in line with the net than would be expected. It's true that they're almost always diagonal to the net, that the right leg crosses over the left somewhat, but there's not the marked right leg cross usually talked about in the backhand.

However, the feet are almost always a good distance apart. This is most important for control, balance, and the proper weight shift. Develop this "broad" stance in your boys' backhand and more power and control will result.

Whenever possible, Budge positions himself at great distance from the ball. It's quite noticeable in picture after picture of the film that his elbow is straight at point of hit. Here again you have another answer to power—leverage.

For the final point on position, it's surprising to note that Budge doesn't hit his backhand with as complete a turn of the shoulders as many players do, or as much as is indicated in practically all instruction.

Walter L. Pate says, regarding this turn, "The body turns at least one quarter to the left." (Or a 45° turn from perpendicular to the net—and a good part of the time even less with Budge.) "Point your shoulder at the ball," Tom Stowe tells his pupils, and this is exactly what Don Budge does.

As for actually getting into position, Budge says he always prefers to use skip steps along the baseline, facing the net when he doesn't have to go too far for the ball. When he does have to move a considerable distance, he uses a hitch step at the last moment to get his feet into correct position.

Budge takes an early back swing, starting it when the ball leaves his opponent's racket, an important point in the backhand. But the outstanding feature of his back swing is its uniformity in comparison to the forward swing. Whether the ball is to be hit high or low, sliced or topped, the back swing is always the same.

Many experts believe that Budge takes his racket straight back. This isn't true. He might do this to return service or to cope with a particularly fast, flat drive when time is of the essence. But the Budge back swing is circular, or oval may be a better word.

The racket describes a half-moon. It never goes up high but rather makes a semi-circle as it goes back. It is taken back with the left hand at the throat of the racket, the hand sliding down to the right hand as the racket swings back. As we've mentioned, it drops off the racket at the end of the back swing. It's this particular method of swinging the racket back that gives Budge the appearance of a batter at the plate.

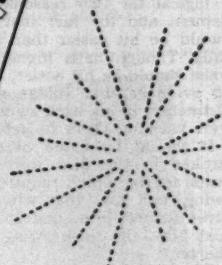
There is, at the start of the backswing, a reaching outward. Take, for example, a ball he's already in position for. Budge reaches outside the line of flight, then comes inside the

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line of flight as the racket nears the end of the back swing. As he swings out and up, the wrist cocks the racket upward, lowering it again as he nears the end of the back swing.

The Budge back swing does not go back very far. It does not "wrap around the body." Rather, at the end it extends from the shoulder almost straight back. It usually ends in line with the body, rarely past it.

This varies with the height of the ball. On low balls, it's particularly short; on high balls, he goes farther back but rarely beyond the hip. This is logical for two reasons—the time element and the fact that low balls should be hit easier than waist-high balls. Though balls higher than the waist should be hit easier, too, there's no evidence that Budge makes this distinction in his back swing. He goes well back on them to get power.

It should be noted here that the strokes in the film were made on grass courts, which require a shorter swing, and also that when the pictures turned from instruction to actual play, the back swing was even shorter.

We want to indicate again that the racket is swung back by the arm more than through a turning of the body, and to add that the racket and arm swing outward and upward in a semi-circular fashion, as a unit.

This is most important. The racket is an extension of the arm. One would do well to keep this in mind. There's no breaking backward of the wrist in the back swing, and no extreme breaking of the elbow. We repeat, the racket does not bend around the body.

To express the outward swing of the racket in a different way—the elbow goes well out from the body in the back swing. This action automatically opens the face, and the face stays open throughout the back swing. By open, we mean the hitting side of the racket faces diagonally upward.

As a matter of fact, Budge's racket is so open at the end of the back swing on some shots that it's parallel with the ground, hitting side facing directly skyward. This is particularly true of balls met at a high level. It's a misconception again that Budge's racket face is flat or perpendicular to the ground at the end (or any part) of his back swing.

Another point of interest on the back swing is a turning backward or inward of the right knee and right hip. With the feet in a limited diagonal position, this provides the effect of a wound-up spring. At the end of his back swing, Budge is ready to unwind. Results confirm the appearance of potential energy at the end of his back swing.

You will note that the word swing has been used again and again. It cannot be overemphasized. Budge offers a perfect example of swinging the racket head, the ultimate in tennis stroking. He has remarked, "the swing is the thing," and he certainly practices what he preaches.

If this is evident on the back swing,

it is even more so on the forward swing. The racket swings in. There's no pushing, thrusting, forcing of the wrist or elbow. It's the racket all the way as it's swung in from the shoulder.

But there's a great contrast here with respect to the back swing. Where uniformity is a rigid rule on the back swing, flexibility is the keynote to the forward swing. And what could be more logical? Even Budge cannot position himself correctly for every shot. So if the ball is a bit close, he withdraws the right shoulder or rotates it out of the way as he swings in and still hits with the elbow straight. If the ball is even closer, the wrist breaks and the elbow flexes a bit, but there's still that swinging of the racket.

This flexibility is noticeable, too, in his handling of low and high balls. On low balls, the face comes to the point of hit more open than on the high balls. On high balls, the face closes as it swings in. There's a possibility here that the face may be turned somewhat to a closed position by the wrist, though there's no noticeable use of the wrist in Budge's forward swing. In answer to our question, "How much do you use your wrist?" Budge replied, "Very slightly."

THIS is the second of a series of articles by Jim Leighton, Jr., the famous tennis coach of Presbyterian College (Clinton, S. C.). An astute teacher, much in demand, he serves as a tennis pro during the summer and is also college editor of *International Tennis News*. His first article, which appeared last month, stressed the importance of flexibility in tennis instruction.

Again the flexibility shows up in the plane of forward swing to low and high balls. Always upward to the low, more in line with the medium, and practically always downward on the high balls (above waist).

The racket always starts inside the intended line of flight of the ball and swings out to the line of flight. It would appear to line up with the line of flight at impact or possibly just before. This inside-outside swing is important. If your backhand lacks pace, keep the ball away from you a bit more and swing out to meet it.

And now we come to the part of the swing where most shots are made or broken, the point of contact. Here again the Budge flexibility is easily recognized. Probably the soundest handling of the racket face is based on the plane the ball is to be hit.

Budge observes this perfectly. His racket is always open on low balls, flat or perpendicular on medium (about waist high) balls, and closed on high balls. Unquestionably he's more inclined to cover balls (racket

bevelled forward) while playing on clay than on grass, but there's a greater percentage of high balls on the former plus the additional fact that an undercut ball will pay off on grass more than on clay.

In the U.S.L.T.A. film, there were two distinct series of shots. The first consisted mainly of low balls. Seven out of eight of these, Budge hit with an open face at point of contact. In the second series, all the balls were hit from the waist up. Budge covered every one of them.

On the point of hit with respect to the racket face, Budge has this to say, "There's a slight forward bevel of the top edge for the imparting of the top spin." (We're a little inclined to think he's talking here of an ideal, a ball from the waist up with adequate time for preparation. Both the film and observation of his play indicate that he's more inclined to cover the ball when he hits cross-court, more inclined to slide inside it with an open face when he hits down the line.)

It's interesting to note how far out in front Budge makes contact with the ball. "The ball is hit approximately a foot ahead of the right hip," he says. He hits frequently even farther out, more so on close balls than on balls he's well-distanced from. Budge does, of course, meet a ball he's driving down the line back farther than one he's hitting cross-court.

His wrist is stiff at impact and he invariably contacts the ball in the center of the racket. At the point of hit, as we have indicated, there's an impression of tremendous leverage, the ball being contacted well out from the body. On these shots, the arm is always straight.

"The weight shifts from the left foot to the right at moment of impact," says Walter L. Pate. This, of course, has always been a moot point. Some authorities claim that the weight is transferred before contact with the ball. That it does go into the shot and not too far ahead of contact or well behind is the important point.

So smoothly does Budge handle this shifting of weight that it's difficult to determine exactly when it does occur.

Regardless of the exact moment the weight is shifted forward, it's amazing to what extent Budge sometimes goes to see that his weight does get into the shot. Many times he'll go so far as to cross his left leg behind his right, so that he'll often end a shot with the back foot, the left, ahead of his right. Though he uses this "step" frequently, he seems to favor its use on close balls.

We cannot leave point of hit without speaking of timing. Correct timing requires the accumulated energy to be transferred at the proper moment. The ball and the swing are like two assembly lines coming together at the same moment.

Nowhere in the sports field is this more noticeably done than in the Budge backhand. The racket starts

(Concluded on page 40)



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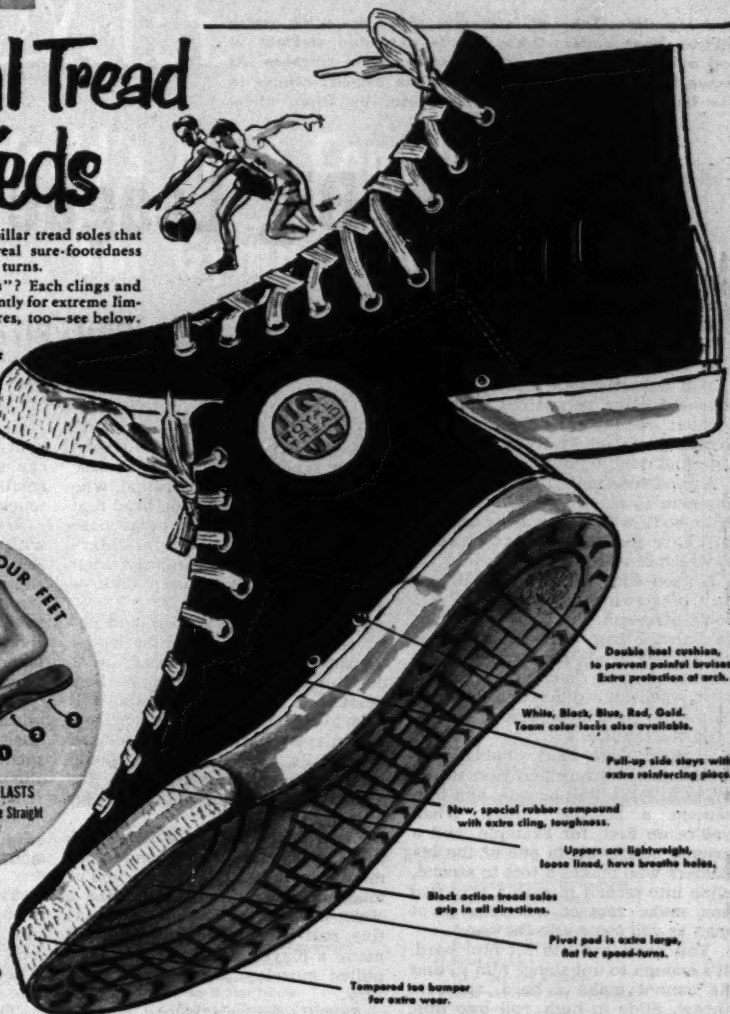


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Bent leg slide: Take-off is always made from leg which will be bent under. Other leg is extended straight at bag and is kept up to prevent spikes from catching. As shown by George Stirnweiss, this slide permits runner to rise immediately and advance. (Photos by Ethan Allen)

Big League Sliding

By PHIL RIZZUTO

Baseball's No. 1 Shortstop, N. Y. Yankees

EVERY player should master the art of sliding. You usually have to slide for one of three reasons. First, to avoid a tag by offering as poor a target as possible. Second, to stop at a desired base without going past and being tagged out, and yet without wasting time in slowing up to make the stop. Third, to break up potential double plays.

A good slide makes it hard for the baseman to reach you with his tag. Your body will be far away and he will have just a small foot or hand at which to stab with the ball.

A good slide is the most efficient way of slowing down so that you don't over-run your base. You can go into the bag without slackening your speed at all, thus gaining that fractional time advantage which often spells the difference between palms down and a jerked thumb from the umpire.

A good slide in a double play situation will insure that your teammate, at least, will be safe, and thus remain a scoring threat. When you're on first, for example, and a ground ball is hit to one of the infielders who makes a toss to second, slide into second in such a way that you make contact with the pivot man as you come into the bag.

You don't have to hit him hard. It's enough to unbalance him so that he cannot make a hard, accurate throw. Slide in high, roll into him, or try to contact his planted foot with the instep of your nearest foot.

There are several different methods of making a slide. Sometimes

a player becomes known for one specific type of slide, as in the case of Pepper Martin, ex-Cardinal, who was famous for his daring head first slide. More often, the great base stealers are adept at several different types of slide. No matter what type a player uses, he has to observe certain basic principles.

For instance, the slide should begin about eight feet from the bag at top speed so that the momentum of the run carries you in to the bag. Relaxation throughout the slide will help avoid injuries. Just as a football player learns to stay relaxed in his falls, a baseball slider should keep his body limber and loose. Remember, tightening up makes for injuries.

Experienced players will tell you that you should never change your mind about a slide. Once you've made up your mind and started a slide, go through with it. A tentative, half-hearted, half slide has put many a player out of action with a pulled muscle, sprain, or bone injury.

As you approach the bag, you can tell from the baseman's stance where he's expecting to take the throw. Watch him and, as you hit the dirt, slide toward the side of the base away from where the throw will come. Keep as much of

your body away from him as you can in order to give him only the small target of a foot or an arm to touch.

Practice sliding on both sides and with either foot hooking the bag. Remember, especially, to keep the sliding leg relaxed. A relaxed leg lessens the danger of catching your spikes in the dirt. Even if you should catch your spikes, the relaxed limb will be less apt to buckle under the weight of your body.

Take a look at the photographs which show big leaguers stealing a base. One thing that strikes you immediately is that every one shows the sliding player with clenched fists. This is a wise precaution against broken fingers.

BENT LEG SLIDE

The bent leg slide is a one-footed feet-first slide. It's made straight at the bag with one foot bent under and the other foot up in the air. The extended leg is kept up so that the spikes will not catch in the dirt.

This slide may be executed from either side. At the conclusion of the slide, the runner is in fine position to get up immediately and advance on any miscue. The take-off for this slide is always made from the leg which will be bent under your body.

Reprinted from May 1952 issue of Boys' Life, published by the Boy Scouts of America.



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I've seen first basemen and pitchers use this slide to beat the hitter to first on close plays. Instead of risking a collision with the batter who's charging down the line, the man with the ball will simply slide into first to beat the runner.

HOOK SLIDE

A hook slide can be made to either side of the bag. Approach the bag at top speed, hit the dirt about eight feet from the base, and slide on your hip away from the baseman with one leg bent under you and the other stretched out to hook the bag with the toe as you slide past.

On a slide to the left of the bag, take off on your right foot and hook the base with your right toe. The left foot should be held forward and up so that the spikes don't catch in the dirt. On a slide to the right of the bag, take off on your left foot and hook the base with your left toe.

A variation of the hook slide is sometimes made by sliding past the base and, as the baseman makes a tag for your foot, pulling it away and touching the bag with your outstretched hand instead. This maneuver might also save you in instances where you have misjudged your slide and missed the base.

HEAD-FIRST SLIDE

The head-first slide is spectacular but not generally recommended because of the danger involved. Even though some players have become outstanding head-first sliders, it's a risky play which doesn't have any particular advantage over the feet-first slides.

A head-first slider dives either right at the bag or off to one side. When he does the latter, he extends one hand to touch the base from the side.

Outstanding headlong sliders watch the baseman and try to avoid his tag by keeping their arm away from the ball.

Sometimes when you're caught off balance in taking your lead, this is the only way you can get back to your base safely, so it's worth knowing how to make it, even though you don't use it as a regular thing.

Infielders who have to make an occasional dive for a ball hit just out of their reach will also benefit from knowing the mechanics of the head-first slide. At the very least, they'll know how to fall correctly after the diving catch.

SLIDING SAFETY

In all slides, you must bear in mind that you're pretty safe as long as you make an honest slide. I want to re-emphasize the importance of

not changing your mind in the middle of your sliding motion, or making half-hearted slides. When you do such a thing, you're in an unnatural position, since you're neither sliding nor running. In addition, you're tense from indecision and your body is more brittle.

You can't hurt yourself in sliding hard if you wear sliding pads on your hips to prevent skin burns or scrapes. This protection will enable you to get sliding practice every time you work out with your team.

It's a good idea to start sliding practice in an area where the ground has been softened up a little. After that, practice sliding into an unguarded base until the mechanics of your slide are down pat. Finally, practice sliding into a bag with the baseman already there with the ball to make the tag.

It may sound impossible to avoid a tag under those circumstances, yet time and time again, runners manage to slide safely right under a man who's waiting for them with the ball already in his glove. See if you can do this once in a while in practice; it will facilitate the play later on under actual game conditions.

Remember that sliding into the bag isn't the whole secret of successful base stealing. One big league manager said he would just as soon have a runner picked off at first for having taken too long a lead, as thrown out at second for not having a long enough lead.

More bases are stolen on the pitcher than on the catcher. A smart base runner who studies the pitcher's moves will learn exactly how much of a lead he can get away with and when he should go down. A good coach will help a base runner enormously by warning him back to the bag, or by telling him when to make his break.

BREAK QUICKLY

When you want to steal, take the longest possible safe lead, and make your break the instant you see the pitcher make any windup or preliminary pitching motion toward home. Go straight down the base line at your very best speed and make your slide at full speed into the side of the bag which is away from where the baseman is waiting for the throw.

Become a good base runner and you will gain in value to your whole team. A daring and successful base stealer can put the whole defensive team on edge. This tenseness will make them less effective in the field.

Get a reputation as a base stealer and you will worry the defense every time you get on base. But, don't run foolishly.

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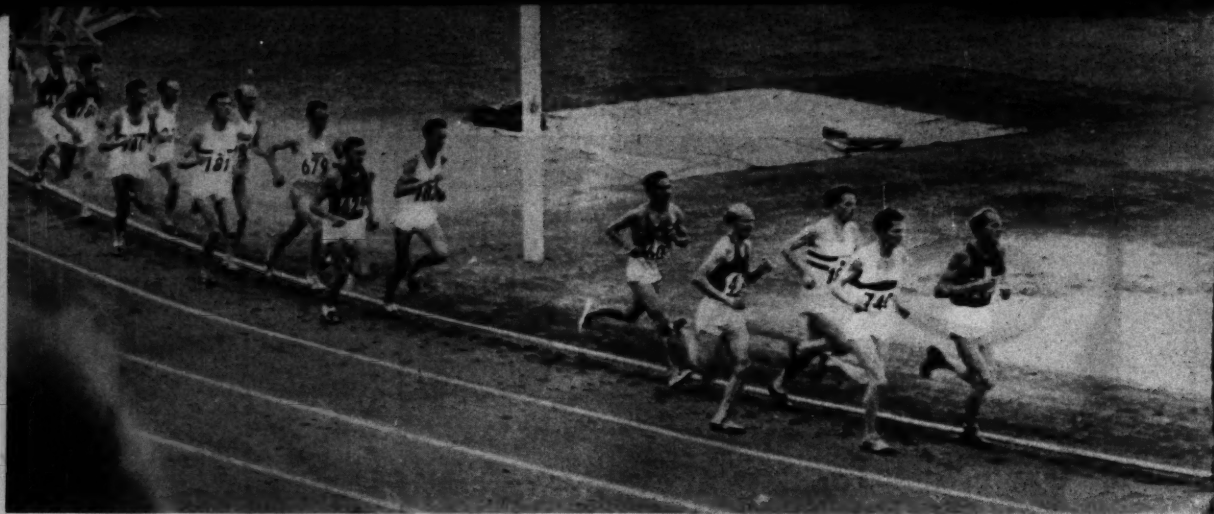
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(Britain), Andersson (Sweden), Beres (Hungary), Perry (Austria), Taipale (Finland), Theys (Belgium), Tuomala (Finland). Photo was taken by Dick Lacey, Pelham (N. Y.) coach, just after Zatopek spurred into the lead midway through the race.

Tactics in Distance Racing

By KEN DOHERTY, Coach, U. of Pennsylvania

PERHAPS the most intriguing yet tragic aspect of track is that of racing tactics. A slight hesitancy here, a single step to the inside there, a few seconds' miscalculation as to the right pace or timing of the final kick—any of these or other seemingly minor errors will ruin months and years of careful preparation and sacrifice. The race isn't always to either the swift or the strong, but to the clever, the skillful, and the constantly wary.

All planning must carefully consider the distance to be run, the size of the track, the number of competitors, their over-all abilities, and the specific abilities of the best runners.

Such planning is particularly important indoors where straightaways are so short, position so essential, and opportunities for gaining it so few and quickly lost.

Even so experienced a miler as Don Gehrman suffered his first loss during the 1951 indoor season by drowsing momentarily in second position behind Stewart Ray while Fred Wilt jumped him from behind with $1\frac{1}{4}$ laps to go. The 3 yards gained thereby was enough to produce the winning medal.

Plans must always be flexible and include at least one alternative,

since track conditions are uncertain and the opponent must be assumed at least equally cunning. Obviously, crowded indoor tracks make all plans most precarious.

Once the plans are made, a quiet belief in them will put the mind and emotions at ease. Worry during the few days prior to a race is certainly useless and can be a serious factor in creating fatigue. Many a man has so fussed and fumed over his coming race as to fatigue his nervous energy and will to win, thus making effective performance impossible.

The man with the best sprint is more likely to win the pole lane at the start as well as the gold medal at the finish. The pole lane or at least a good early position is especially vital to indoor running and to such shorter runs as the half-mile. Therefore, practice in starting with the sprinters is one of the best of all pre-meet tactics.

Tactics When Setting Pace

1. The primary problem as well as primary opportunity when setting pace lies in the third phase of the race, when fatigue dulls the will and muscles feel heavy and lethargic. This is the time when the

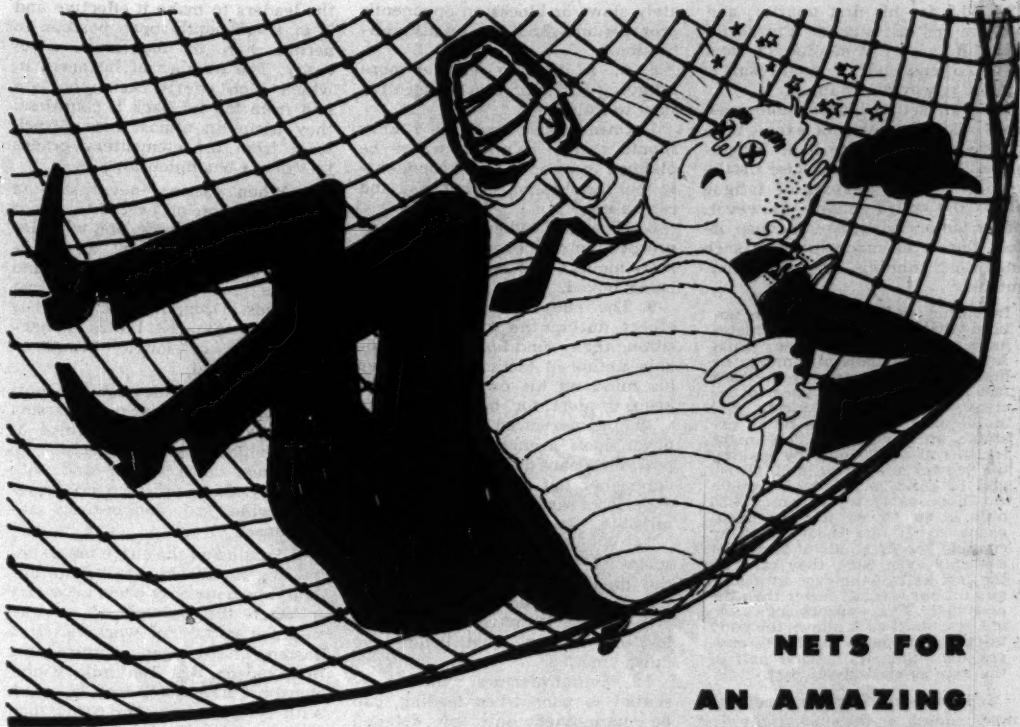
ordinary runner allows the pace to fall or lags behind, whereas the real champion pace-setter pours it out.

2. Even pace makes for the best time, for it implies maximum physical efficiency, rhythm, and relaxation. However, special conditions make such pace difficult, unwise, and often impossible.

(a.) A crowded field on an indoor track may force a man to go out fast, take an early lead, and therefore set an altogether too rapid early pace.

(b.) An opponent with a strong finish may demand a first half which is unusually fast and which may therefore discourage him. Such an effort is likely to prove successful only against an easily disheartened competitor.

(c.) Almost universal judgment and practice seems to agree that the 880 runner should produce a first 440 which is three or even four seconds faster than that of the second 440. This may be due to competitive racing conditions in which early attempts to gain right position decide the pace. When, in 1950, Whitfield tied the world's record of 1:49.2 for the 880, he unintentionally but still unquestionably ran 21.6 for his first



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New York 17, N. Y. • Baltimore 3, Md. • Boston 10, Mass. • Chicago 10, Ill. • San Francisco 5, Cal. • Gloucester, Mass.



220, 50.5 for his first quarter, and 58.7 for his last quarter. Physically this difference in time doesn't seem to make sense, but the final result is a most powerful argument.

(d.) In actual competition, even pace seldom occurs, for excess nervous energy and the fight for position hurry the first phase of the race while the feelings of fatigue slow the third phase. However, other factors being equal, every effort should be made to avoid such inefficient running. Fred Wilt comments:

In racing techniques, I have noticed that the European athletes have departed from the usual American technique of running the first and last quarters of the race fast and allowing the pace to decrease considerably during the middle part of the race. As an example, an American athlete might try to run a 4:20 mile by making the quarter mile times in 62, 68, 68, and 62. And a European athlete would probably try to run a 4:20 mile in 66, 66, 65, 63. The Europeans go by the theory that by running the first half of a race at a steady even pace, they can run the last half of the race in a mile two to four seconds faster than the first half. This appears logical to me, inasmuch as it allows the body to operate under a much less oxygen debt than if the first half of the race is excessively fast.

3. In a large field of runners, the man leading at the end of the first 440 in the mile or two mile race is certain to be going much too fast for even pace and probably has paid too great a price for his leading position. This is particularly true outdoors where longer straightaways make a later play for position a wiser plan. Indoors, careful consideration must be given to the relative values of right position as against a more even pace.

To lay well back in the field may bring better pace, but this advantage is often lost in the attempt to gain position later in the race. However, experienced and mature runners follow this method almost invariably when running in a crowded field. They begin to move up after the first half mile and then pour it on after the mile when men are tired and less combative. Such a practice seldom works in the 880 and is questionable in the mile indoors. But it's usually effective in the two mile race, both indoors and out.

4. To discourage one's opponents, it's usually wise to pick up speed a little when a lead is challenged, but a marked change of pace can occur only once or twice without affecting endurance.

5. The use of pacemakers is a questionable practice at best, but is certainly unethical when it deliber-

ately slows or blocks an opponent's progress and should bring disqualification.

6. As a rule, to lead is more fatiguing (at least psychologically) than to follow.

7. Once in the lead, the runner should realize he's now where he planned to be and should confidently feel for rhythm, smoothness, and relaxation.

8. If passed when leading, the prospective winner should immediately move a half lane out to avoid being boxed.

9. The runner should think of others during the race—their position, their condition, their probable timing of tactics. It will keep his mind off his own fatigue and keep it alert for quick decisions.

10. Inexperienced runners should never look around. Many of the best Europeans do look back at their opponents, but only their extensive experience and skill make it permissible.

11. A runner should always sprint at least two strides beyond the finish line, regardless of the length of his lead or the certainty of his place. Many races have been lost by relaxing just before the finish line.

12. Mental alertness, which is essential to pace when leading, can be maintained only by detailed planning and experimentation.

13. Right pace is particularly important in the 880, for lap times come too late in the race to permit a satisfactory adjustment to mistakes.

When Following Pace

1. The key question in racing is, "What's the *minimum* distance within which the athlete can outrun his opponents?" Perhaps it's the last 50 yards, the last 150, the last 440, the last 880, or even the full distance. From this viewpoint, every plan to win must include the answer to this question. Mal Whitfield picked up his winning lead in the 1948 Olympic 800-meter run between 400 and 600 meters. Had he waited for the last 220, he probably would have lost to Wint and Barten. From conversations with him, I believe that he made this decision some two months earlier and practiced accordingly.

2. Knowing pace is essential to every runner, even the one who considers himself a follower. Pace will determine the timing of his final kick, and occasionally may force him to take the lead himself through the greater part of the race.

3. A strong finishing kick means little unless one is close enough to

the leaders to make it effective and is in a sufficiently open position to permit him to maneuver when ready. The number of instances in which such efforts occur too late and from too far back is countless; they occur in almost every track meet from the elementary grades to world's championships.

4. When passing, never stop to ask permission or be polite. Do it quickly, unexpectedly, and with determination. "Jumping" an opponent is an art requiring study and practice, but one that pays great dividends. Dropping back a little and then coming fast builds momentum which occasionally brings an invaluable lead.

5. Where straightaways are short as in indoor running, most passing should occur in the first third of the straightaway. The decision to pass must come earlier and with certainty. Come off the curve somewhat wide, fast, and entirely unannounced.

6. Passing on the curve means increasing the distance to be run and should be done only when necessary or when the element of surprise makes it certain of working. Herb Barten, of Michigan, captured the 1949 indoor Big Ten mile championship with just such a stunt. With Don Gehrman in second spot, Barten in fourth, and 300 yards to go, Barten suddenly sprinted all out in the middle of the curve, just where least expected. In 30 yards he had a 5 yard lead, enough to insure the title.

7. When following, the inside lane is usually dangerous; and in the last stages of the race it may be fatal to success. Many a favorite running in second place, inside, has watched almost the entire field pass him before being able to move out and up.

8. When following and planning to win, the safest position is in second spot, a half lane wide, about 18 inches from the curb, on the leader's right shoulder. Such a position permits one to meet every challenge, to move out and go up with those taking the lead, or to feint them back into place if they're half-hearted.

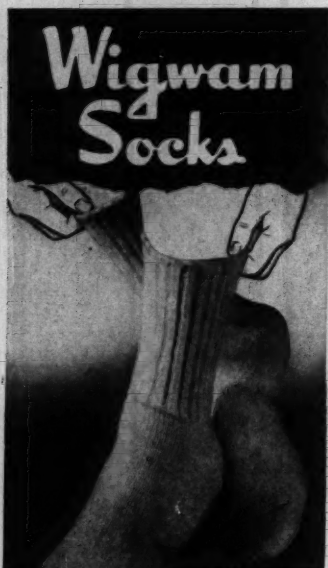
9. As soon as a runner has found his position, he should feel for rhythm and relaxation. This running position whether first, second, third, or tenth, is maintained throughout the middle half of the race at a minimum expenditure of energy to best assure the intended final place. Right position plus maximum economy of effort brings success.

10. In almost all instances, the advantage in competitive racing lies

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with the man running in second position, since he can control much of the race from this position. If the pace is too slow, he can, by moving up to the leader's shoulder, stimulate him to increase it. If too fast, the realization that he's being followed closely will make the leader run with greater tension and thereby increase his fatigue disproportionately.

(Ed. Note: People who can't get enough of Ken Doherty's writings—

"Foul Play on the Hardwood"

(Continued from page 5)

be able to sink their fouls under duress. If they miss, they'll have to battle for the rebound. If they hit, they're awarded possession as a premium.

Though we ourselves suggested this rule three years ago (January 1950) right here in this department, and it appears pretty sound on paper, we'd like to see some experimentation with it before offering it for adoption.

One other suggestion might be mentioned in this respect. There's a school of coaches who bluntly say, "To hell with any special rule for the closing minutes of play. Let one set of rules govern the game from beginning to end—just as in football, baseball, and the other sports."

There's only one thing wrong with this reasoning. It isn't realistic. We must accept the fact that the closing minutes of play produce a change in playing conditions which demands special dispensation by the rules.

All in all, we'd like to see our rules men make three changes in the code for 1953-54:

1. Adopt the aforementioned pro rule (jump ball after every successful free throw) for the last two minutes of play.
2. Widen the free-throw lane from 6' to 12' in order to cripple the effectiveness of the tall boys around the basket area.
3. Pending results of an experiment in Illinois, eliminate the rule which disqualifies a player after his fifth personal foul—and substitute a rule which gives the offended team the normal number of free throws after the player's fifth foul, as well as possession out of bounds at mid-court.

HELP, POLICE! MURDER!

OUR reputation for unvarnished veracity was smashed to molecules on January 25 when Mr. R. L.

and we're among them—will be interested to know that the remarkably astute U. of Pennsylvania coach has a wonderful book just coming off the press. The product of three years of intensive application, *Modern Track and Field: History, Promotion, Methods* (Prentice-Hall, Inc.) will make high school and college track coaches from coast to coast exceedingly happy. Watch our New Books Dept. for a comprehensive review of this new text.)

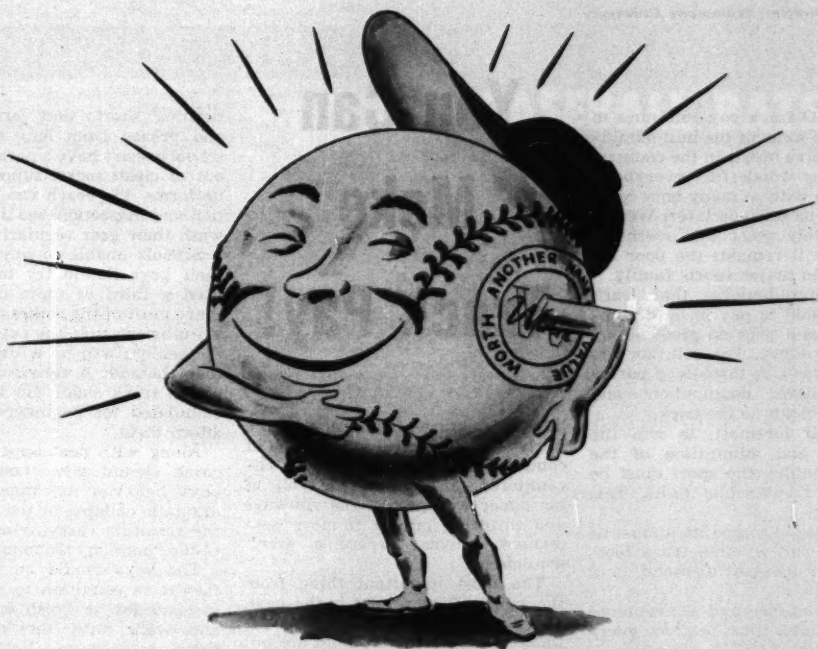
Moncrief, principal of Tallulah (La.) H.S., informed us that our story about his school's 89-game winning streak (in our January issue) was mighty interesting but also mighty untrue.

Upon being revived 72 hours later, we launched an immediate investigation. We discovered that the information had been sent to us in a four-page letter which had meticulously detailed all the facts and figures of the non-existent record. The story had rung so true that we hadn't bothered to observe one of the standing rules of the house—to check every unofficially recorded record with the coach or principal of the school in question.

Of the 13 records enumerated in the editorial, this was the only one we hadn't followed through on—and, as fate would have it, it proved to be the only rotten apple in the barrel. The hoaxer, incidentally, has been exposed as an irresponsible student. We sincerely hope no damage has been wreaked by his paranoid fish story.

A Free Throw by Mr. Porter

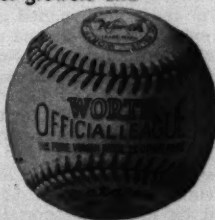
THAT the 1953 foul rules have stimulated a lot of controversy, nobody will deny. That it's moved most coaches to howls of anguish—as we've insinuated here—may be denied. At any rate, Mr. H. V. Porter, secretary of the National Basketball Committee, informs us that judging from the comments he's been receiving, about 75% of our schools favor the new rules while 25% feel as we do. He also observes that while some sections are fairly happy with the 1-and-1 rule but dislike the 2-shot proviso in the last three minutes, other sections oppose the 1-and-1 rule but like the 2-throw appendage. "With such a divergence of opinion," concludes Mr. Porter, "it looks as though the N.B.C. will have a lively time at its next annual meeting."



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WORTH—another name for VALUE

By CHESTER R. STACKHOUSE

Ex-Athletic Director, Willamette University

You Can Make Track Pay!

MAKING track pay continues to baffle some of the best administrative minds in the country. The sport is wonderful—everybody agrees. But with so many boys competing and so few spectators watching, it rarely pays the overhead. That's why it remains the poor relation of the major sports family.

The writer believes that track CAN be made to pay in most communities—and with no great outlay of money, either. The solution lies with the coach. A three-way parlay of enthusiasm, imagination, and perspiration can do the trick.

First and foremost, to win the confidence and admiration of the spectator public, the sport must be run on a businesslike basis. This means that:

1. The site of competition must be well cared for, whether it's a football field, a baseball diamond, or a gym.
2. The comfort and convenience of the spectator must be given every consideration.
3. The schedule and caliber of the opponents must be such as to provide evenly matched, thrilling competition.
4. Since the interest span of the spectator is seldom longer than two hours, the events must be run off on schedule with no dull lulls in between.
5. Good public relations, including radio and newspaper coverage, must be promoted within the area to solidify public support.
6. The meet must be colorful.

DEVELOPING THE FACILITIES

We all know that many communities don't have a modern athletic field and that many which do have a fine gym and a well-sodded gridiron haven't developed a good running track and jumping pits. Now a standard curbed track is an expensive project. But it's possible to improve any school's track facilities with a little output of strength and energy.

Time spent in dragging and leveling the running surface will be appreciated by the competitor. Good level, solid takeoffs for the jumping events can be produced anywhere with a little time and effort. Inexpensive sawdust, shavings, sand, and potato bags will produce jumping pits as good as can be found.

If water is available for sprink-

ling, the texture of the track can be fairly well controlled at the time of competition. If a rainy season is encountered, an inexpensive roll of tar paper will protect the runways and throwing circles, if more permanent canvas tarpaulins aren't available.

The most important thing from the spectator viewpoint is the neat, artistic way in which the track is lined. All too often the lines are put down in a hurried, sloppy fashion, forming lanes so crooked that only a swivel-hipped halfback can follow them.

This may have been pardonable in the days when it took a whole morning or afternoon to mark the lanes around a quartermile track. But not today. Thanks to commercial line markers, the job can now be done in just 30 minutes! This is a big help to the busy track coach.

A great many schools don't have good hurdles, and many of these hurdles look even worse because of the coach's failure to repaint them. This negligence is unpardonable.

It's a matter of economy, quite usable hurdles, starting blocks, and jumping standards can be fashioned in the school shop. However, one-tenth of the football budget will buy a flight of lifetime metal hurdles. If this is done annually, the community within six years will have a uniform set of hurdles that will serve it for the next quarter century.

There's an old saying that "Cleanliness is next to godliness." This certainly applies to athletes. There's no excuse for an athlete, at practice or in competition, to wear dirty clothing.

This rule is violated in track perhaps more than in any other sport. Far too many high school boys run in dirty gray sweatsuits or wear

running shorts and jerseys soiled and greasy from long use. If the school doesn't have a periodic check-out of clean socks, supporters, and uniforms, the coach can, by education and inspection, see that his boys wash their gear regularly.

Schools unable to buy spikes for their boys should try to defray at least a third or more of the cost. Since most of the spikes will be well worn by the time the boys graduate, the seniors will be willing to leave them behind. A considerable number of track shoes can thus be accumulated for beginners unable to afford them.

Along with neat appearance, the coach should give thought to his boys' behavior in competition. The dramatic collapse at the finish, with the resulting carrying and walking of the "hero" by teammates, is passé.

The boys should be told that if they're in condition to run, they're in condition to finish on their feet and walk until they've regained their composure. Nothing hurts track more in the eyes of the uninformed spectator than a collapse at the finish line. Too often it's just a dramatic bid for attention and sympathy.

CONTROL THE CROWD

The ticket-buying public is entitled to view the show in comfort. If this isn't provided, many of them won't come back. Too many track meets make no effort to control unruly fans. The spectators are allowed to get close enough to touch the competitors, and consequently nobody sees much of anything.

Some fans will run to one end of the field to watch the finish of the 100, then race across to the other side to catch the finish of the mile. Between races, they may huddle around the high jump pit—while the poor coach begs them to stand back from the runway.

To assure the success of the meet, the host school must keep the crowd under perfect control. This is easy—where a few simple rules are observed:

1. Arrange for only one finish line (except for the 220-yard dash and low hurdles); then adapt your seating facilities accordingly.

2. Place the judges and timers off the field where they won't block the spectators' vision.

(Continued on page 46)

Track starting is a complex art, involving a lot more than the mere pulling of a trigger

... and Away They Go!

By PAUL R. KELLER

Veteran Starter, Prospect, Ohio

THANKS to the human or individual element, there probably are as many styles of track starting as there are starters. Nevertheless, there are certain basic mechanics that are employed by all. Before enlarging upon them, however, I'd like to briefly enumerate some of the qualifications of a starter.

As in all types of officiating, an athletic background is of considerable value. The more you know about track, the more qualified you'll be to handle the many problems that arise from meet to meet.

You must also study the rules until you know them perfectly. Then you must check yourself on them several times during the season. This study should include the question-and-answer section of the rule book, as well as the "situation rulings." The reason for this is that starters are frequently called upon to double as referees.

Some of our best starters are former track coaches who've had much experience starting their own boys in daily workouts.

Now for the mechanics of the art. First, I'd like to stress the advisability of properly dressing and equipping yourself. This is necessary in order to be seen easily when some distance from the timers and judges. A white cap or hat is recommended, plus a brightly colored sleeve that can be drawn over the regular coat or shirt sleeve.

The starter should also have two good starting pistols, one for recall or emergency. It doesn't make much difference whether he uses a .22, a .32, or some other type of gun. The important thing is to use shells with black smoke powder. Starters who fail to use "black powder" shells will find the timers "in their hair," and are apt to be forgotten when it comes time to pass out the starting jobs in the spring.

Another piece of necessary equipment is a whistle with which to signal the timers and judges when

ready to get the race underway.

While the clerk is lining up the boys in their respective lanes, the starter should be checking his guns for empty shells. These should be replaced after EVERY race. This habit will save him the embarrassment of attempting to start a race with an empty cartridge. At this time, the starter can also see that attendants and others remove themselves from the start and are instructed to remain perfectly silent and motionless when the boys get on their marks. This is also a good time to look around for picture-takers who can cause trouble with their camera "clicking."

You learn these things the hard way—through experience. Several years ago the writer had a 100-yd. dash started by an innocent picture-taker "clicking" his camera! A group of young, eager youngsters tensed in the "set" position will respond to almost any kind of noise.

After giving whatever help is needed in regard to block adjustment and after seeing that everybody is ready for the start, the starter should call them to "their marks" for certain necessary instructions. If it's a sprint or hurdle race, the starter should caution all runners to remain in their lanes for the entire distance.

In the longer events, instruction should be given as to how and when the runners can cut to the pole. The boys should be told that they can cut to the pole whenever they're at least a running stride ahead of anybody they're passing. The deciding factor, I try to make clear, is whether or not they force the runners to shorten or chop their strides to avoid being bumped or spiked.

In some meets, a restraining line is placed 30 or 40 yards in front of the start, and the runners must re-

main in their respective lanes until they cross this line. Then, and only then, are they permitted to cut to the pole.

The All-Ohio College Track & Field meet, annually held at Ohio Wesleyan's beautiful Selby Stadium, employ the restraining line for the 440 and 880 yard runs. The coaches like this method of starting these two races because it gives the runners a chance to lengthen out somewhat before their burst for the curb.

When races, such as those mentioned above, start and finish on the straightaway, I include another bit of advice. I instruct all runners that, as they come off the final curve into the home stretch, they should pick out a lane and remain in it at all times except when passing an opponent. This avoids jostling at the finish and has a definite tendency to prevent veering to the right or left by runners about to be passed.

This business of a competitor leaving his lane and crossing over into the path of an oncoming runner is against the rules and, if contact is made, or, if the runner coming up has to break his stride because of this act, a foul has been committed and the offender must be tossed out of the race. Since making this particular instruction part of my starting procedure, I've noticed much improvement in the finishing actions of the runners.

After informing the boys as to the number of places to be scored and the method of scoring in vogue, the starter is ready to talk to the boys about the start itself. While a starter's reputation has most to do with the securing of the runner's confidence, the way he gives these final instructions will help considerably in building up the desired atmosphere.

As when giving all instructions, the starter should talk slowly, clearly, and with an air of confidence and authority that indicates he knows what he's doing.

One of the chief reasons for the

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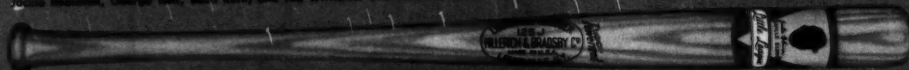
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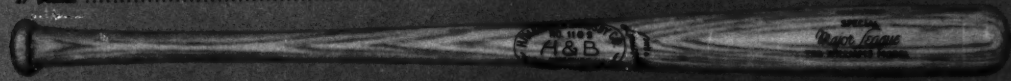
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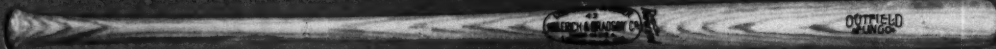


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40S Special. GENUINE AUTOGRAPHED LOUISVILLE SLUGGER—OIL TEMPER. Quality and finish identical to the No. 40 but turned to slightly smaller dimensions especially for College and High School athletes. Each carton of one dozen contains the Genuine Autographed models listed below. Each \$3.50

MODELS: Joe DiMaggio • Fawcett Fain • George Kell • Ralph Kiner • Babe Ruth • Ted Williams



41 ASH TEMPO. GENUINE LOUISVILLE SLUGGER—POWERIZED. Natural Ash White Finish. Turned from select, air-seasoned, second growth Northern White Ash. Each carton of one dozen contains three (24" infield and three (32" and 36" outfield) bats. Shipping weight, 30 pounds. Each \$4.55

PACKING: Nos. 125, 40, and 40B packed two dozen to carton—2/25", 3/25", and 4/25". Shipping weight of No. 125, 25 pounds; shipping weight of Nos. 40 and 40B, 30 pounds. Nos. 125S and 40S packed two dozen to carton—2/25", 3/25", and 4/25". Shipping weight, 30 pounds.

HILLERICH & BRADSBY COMPANY, INC., LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY
Also Makers of Louisville Grand Slam and Louisville Lo-Shore Golf Clubs

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Rube Ashburn
Very large, long barrel with very large handle and small knob.



Dominic DiMaggio
Small barrel that tapers gradually to very small handle. Large knob.



Joe DiMaggio
Medium size barrel with gradual taper to small handle. Large knob.



Mickey Vernon
Medium barrel with long, gradual taper. Very small handle. Large knob.



Nelson Fox
Very large, long barrel tapers to very large handle. Small knob.



Dale Mitchell
Very large, gradually tapering barrel. Medium handle that tapers up to large knob.



Ralph Kiner
Very large barrel with normal taper. Medium size handle that builds up to large knob.



Ferris Fain
Large and barrel tapers to a little below medium size. Very small handle. Large knob.



Walter Dropo
Barrel tapers gradually from medium size and to very small handle. Very large knob.



Mickey Mantle
Medium size barrel, with long, gradual taper to very small handle. Very large knob.



Johnny Pesky
Small, slowly tapering barrel that goes abruptly into a very small handle. Small knob.



Whitey Lockman
Barrel large at end, tapers to less than medium size. Handle very small with large knob.



Pee Wee Reese
Large near end, barrel tapers to medium size. Handle medium large with very large knob.



Ted Kluszewski
Very large barrel tapers quickly to medium size. Handle medium large with very small knob.



Ted Williams
Small barrel that tapers down to very small handle. Handle builds up sharply to large knob.



Ed 'Duke' Sunden
Barrel tapers from large end to below medium size. Very small handle that goes up to very large knob.



Enos Slaughter
Medium large barrel, with gradual taper to small handle. Handle builds up quickly to large knob.



George 'Babe' Ruth
Barrel large at end, tapering off to below medium size. Very small handle that builds up sharply to large knob.



Rogers Hornsby
Barrel tapers quickly from very large end to medium size. Handle slightly above medium size. Very small knob.



Bill Goodman
Medium size at end, barrel tapers gradually, then drops quickly into medium handle. Very small knob.



Larry Berra
Large at extreme end, barrel tapers slightly below medium size. Handle, very small, tapers up quickly to very large knob.



Hank Bauer
Very large at end, barrel graduating quickly to medium size. Medium large handle and extremely small knob.



Vernon Stephens
Long, medium-size barrel that tapers noticeably where it enters into extremely small handle. Handle builds up quickly to large knob.



Jackie Robinson
Barrel medium size at end, but comparatively very large farther down, having very little taper. Handle extraordinarily large. Very large knob.



George Kall
Small near end, barrel tapering down slowly to slightly below medium size. Very small handle that builds up quickly to large knob.

The models of these famous hitters comprise the 1952 Genuine Autographed Louisville Slugger 125 Bat line.

LOUISVILLE SLUGGER BATS

LOUISVILLE SLUGGER

LOUISVILLE SLUGGER
HILLERICH & BRADSBY CO.
LOUISVILLE, KY.

SOFTBALL BATS

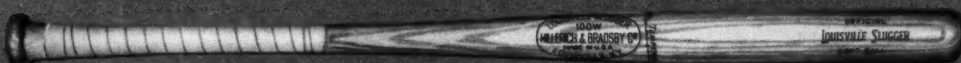
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102 OFFICIAL LOUISVILLE SLUGGER SOFTBALL BAT. Assorted popular softball models of first quality Ash and Hickory. Oil Tempered and finished in Saddle Brown. Packed one dozen to carton, 4/33" and 4/34", shipping weight, 23 pounds Each \$2.19



100C OFFICIAL LOUISVILLE SLUGGER "FAST SWING" SOFTBALL MODEL. Turned from high quality Hickory and finished in Medium Brown. One dozen to carton, 4/31" and 4/32", shipping weight, 23 pounds Each \$2.19



100W OFFICIAL LOUISVILLE SLUGGER SOFTBALL BAT. Assorted popular softball models. Turned from high quality Ash and/or Hickory. Natural White Finish and Oil Tempered. One dozen to carton, 4/32" and 4/34", shipping weight, 22 pounds Each \$2.19



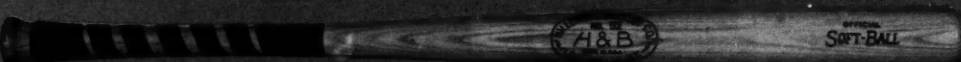
101 OFFICIAL "It's a Louisville" SOFTBALL BAT. Assorted models turned from Ash and Hickory. Natural Finish and Brown Tapar grip. One dozen to carton, 4/33" and 4/34", shipping weight, 21 pounds Each \$1.48



104 OFFICIAL "It's a Louisville" SOFTBALL BAT—Fast SWING MODEL. Made of Ash and Hickory, with Brown Saddle Finish. One dozen to carton, 4/31" and 4/32", shipping weight, 23 pounds Each \$2.48



105 OFFICIAL SOFTBALL BAT. Turned from Hickory, and finished in Saddle. One dozen assorted models to carton, 4/32" and 4/34", shipping weight, 23 pounds Each \$1.39



106 OFFICIAL SOFTBALL BAT. Light Saddle Tan Finish. Ash and/or Hickory. One dozen assorted models to carton, 4/32" and 4/34", shipping weight, 23 pounds Each \$1.39



107 OFFICIAL SOFTBALL BAT. Turned from Hickory with Saddle Finish and Gray Tapar Grip. Assorted models. One dozen to carton, 4/32" and 4/34", shipping weight 23 pounds Each \$1.48



108 OFFICIAL SOFTBALL BAT. Saddle Finish. One dozen assorted models to carton, 4/32" and 4/34", shipping weight, 23 pounds Each \$1.39

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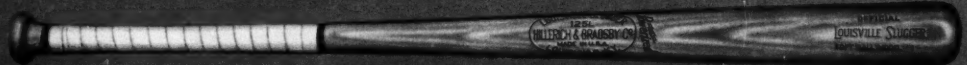
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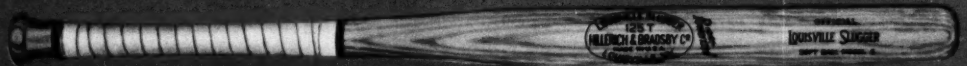
finest quality and assurance that your softball bat is of official size.



121 OFFICIAL LOUISVILLE SLUGGER SOFTBALL MODEL 12. For the consistent hitter, a small barrel bat (2 1/16" in diameter) with straight taper to small grip. Antique Finish. Finest selection of Season-Growth Ash and/or Hickory. One dozen to carton, 6/33" and 6/34", shipping weight, 19 pounds.....Each \$2.75



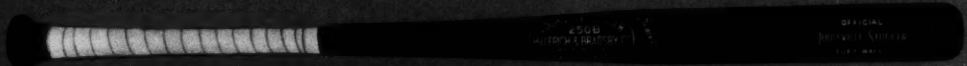
122 OFFICIAL LOUISVILLE SLUGGER SOFTBALL MODEL 1. For girl hitters. A small barrel bat, 2 inches in diameter, with gradient taper to small grip. Natural White Finish, Ash, and Forested. One dozen to carton, 32" length, shipping weight, 18 pounds.....Each \$2.45



123 OFFICIAL LOUISVILLE SLUGGER SOFTBALL MODEL 4. The heavy hitter—a large barrel bat—2 1/8" barrel, tapering slightly to a medium grip. Natural White Finish. Turned from select Ash and/or Hickory, and Forested. One dozen to carton, 6/33" and 6/34", shipping weight, 24 pounds.....Each \$3.45



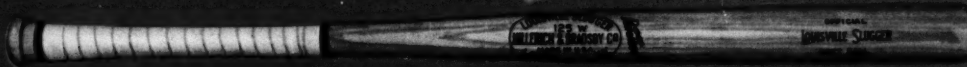
124 OFFICIAL LOUISVILLE SLUGGER SOFTBALL MODEL 5. "Pro-Long" Model for hitting fast pitches. Barrel-shaped, and quickly tapered to small grip. Natural White Finish. Turned from select Ash and/or Hickory, and Forested. One dozen to carton, 6/33" and 6/34", shipping weight, 22 pounds.....Each \$3.45



125 OFFICIAL LOUISVILLE SLUGGER "BLACK BUFF" SOFTBALL MODEL. A selected variety of models—current fall team requirements. Ebony Finish. Turned from select Ash and/or Hickory. One dozen to carton, 6/33" and 6/34", shipping weight, 22 pounds.....Each \$3.45



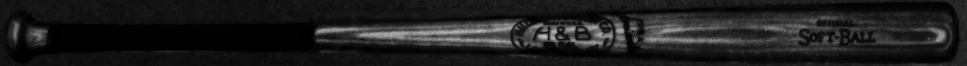
126 OFFICIAL LOUISVILLE SLUGGER SOFTBALL BAT. A selected assortment of models that will meet requirements of the various types of hitters. Double Brown Finish and "Dark-Forested" grey. Turned from select Ash and Hickory, and Forested. One dozen to carton, 6/33" and 6/34", shipping weight, 22 pounds.....Each \$3.45



127 OFFICIAL LOUISVILLE SLUGGER SOFTBALL BAT. Assortment of popular models graded to carton of one dozen. Turned from select Ash and/or Hickory, and Forested. Finished in Natural Ash-White. Lengths, 6/33" and 6/34", shipping weight, 22 pounds.....Each \$3.45



128 OFFICIAL LOUISVILLE SLUGGER SOFTBALL BAT. Graded to accepted official models. Forested and Finished in Brown Antique. Turned from high-quality Ash and/or Hickory. One dozen to carton, 32" length only, shipping weight, 18 pounds.....Each \$2.15



129 OFFICIAL "IT'S A LOUISVILLE" SOFTBALL MODEL. Natural White Finish Ash with One Super Grip. One dozen to carton, 32" length, shipping weight, 22 pounds.....Each \$7.45

great amount of nervousness exhibited by most runners just prior to the start, is their fear of having opponents get by with a roll. One of the starter's chief duties is to allay these fears by assuring the runners that everyone will have an equal opportunity to run his best race.

It almost goes without saying that a starter should never exhibit nervousness nor hurry his starting duties. Above all, he should never evince excitement. This often will carry over to the participants.

Now that the starter has assured the runners of a fair start, everything is in readiness to get the race underway. The starter should take his position a few yards ahead of the starting line off the track, usually on the side opposite the grandstand.

I assume that the starter has already signalled the timers and judges that he's about to start the race. He should now give his first command to "Get on your marks" or "Go to your marks" or "Take your marks." He must allow ample time for all to properly get on their marks.

If this takes more than about 15 seconds, the starter should call the runners up to prevent cramped legs and the building of undesirable tension. The rule book suggests that 8 to 10 seconds is sufficient time to allow runners to get on their marks. But the writer prefers the longer interval, since we're attempting to eliminate all hurrying and are working for as much relaxation as possible. We're interested in calmness and deliberation.

When all are in proper position and steady, the starter should instruct them to "Get set." This command must be given slowly and not too loudly. Then, when all are set and motionless, he should allow an interval of at least two seconds and then discharge his pistol.

If any portion of a competitor's body touches the starting line or the ground in front of the line before the pistol is fired, it shall be considered a false start. The starter must warn the offender and disqualify at the second false start. If, however, the starter fires the pistol and then recalls the runners, no penalty should be inflicted.

At the first sign of movement by the boys, the starter should bring them up to calm them down. This will prevent false starts, the bane of all starters.

One false start frequently leads to another and then to a third. To prevent this FIRST false start should be a big aim of the starter. I tell the boys that the only movement of their bodies I'll tolerate is that of

their intercostals. They usually ask what these are. I tell them these are their breathing muscles. The runners usually smile and relaxation results.

The unsteadiness a starter should look for in the "Set" position includes movement of arms, legs, or hips. Occasionally, a starter can let the runners work this out. Usually, however, it takes too long to do this and trouble is likely to erupt somewhere else along the starting line. Especially is this true if the movement occurs just as the starter is about ready to shoot his gun.

When starting a meet with preliminaries, such as a League meet, a District event, or a big Relays affair, a starter has other instructions to give the competitors. This includes the name of the event, the number to qualify, and the places to be counted in the finals.

An example might be: "This is the first heat of the 120-yard high hurdles, class A. The winners of the first two positions in each of three heats will advance to the finals. Five places will be scored in the final race."

THIS is the first of two articles by Paul R. Keller, a former high school coach who's now one of Ohio's busiest track starters. Mr. Keller, of Prospect, Ohio, handles some of the biggest meets in the Buckeye State, including the Ohio Wesleyan Relays, the annual Ohio Conference Meet, the All-Ohio College Meet, and numerous other college and high school affairs.

When working a meet divided into "A" and "B" or similar classifications, it's very important to indicate (in the pre-race instructions) just which division is starting. More than once I've saved a class "B" boy from running against "A" competition, or vice versa.

More and more coaches and meet managers are using staggered starts to get certain races underway. In larger meets, even the mile and two-mile runs are now being staggered around one curve. In the big relay meets, a starter will run into many staggered races. In all these instances, he'll have a "position" problem to solve.

Except for an 8-lane, 880-yd. relay stagger, I like a position on the track just far enough in front of the competitors to see them all. I've found this distance to be approximately 30-40 feet in front of the runner with the greatest amount of stagger. After firing the gun, I merely step off the track out of the

way of the oncoming runners.

If six to eight boys are being staggered, this position will probably be toward the outside of the track. If five or less runners are participating in the race, I'll probably be starting from a position in lane 3; and, after firing the gun, I'll step off the track into the infield.

When starting a field of six to eight runners in a staggered 800-yd. relay, with the race being run in lanes the entire distance, I employ an assistant. The assistant stands off the track just in front of the runner in lane 8. I take a position on the track just to the outside of the runner in lane 6. From this vantage point, I get a good view of the competitors starting in the first five lanes. My assistant is then responsible for those running in lanes 6, 7, and 8.

In all such races as the above, a megaphone should be part of the starter's equipment. A small one will suffice for races with a short stagger. The much longer staggered 880-yd. relay will require the use of a larger megaphone.

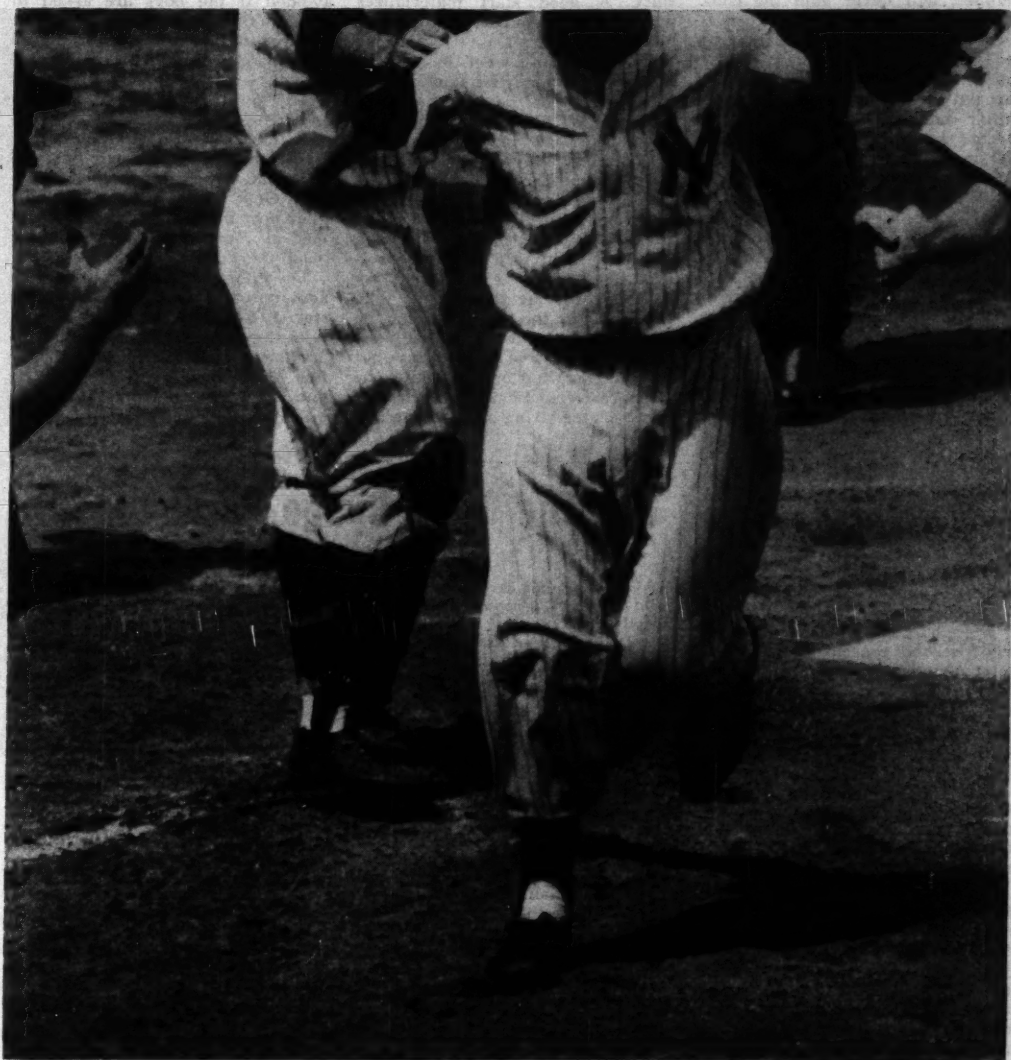
And now for some general ideas on starting. Starting a meet is a meticulous job. It demands poise and a personality that radiates confidence and assurance that nobody's going to get an unfair start.

A starter should become pretty standard in the way he does his work. He must give the boys plenty of time to adjust their blocks and get on the marks. And the time allowed should be constant.

I also believe that a starter should be very "regular" in the length of time he holds the runners in the "Set" position. From personal experience, I know that boys like regular and constant starting. Many of the athletes I've had the pleasure of working with, have told me that one of the things they liked most about my starting was the consistency of my timing in the "Set" position.

An "irregular" starter consistently finds himself in hot water. I like to call this type of starter a jitterbug. He makes the boys restive and jittery. And where the runners have no idea whether a starter will shoot a fast or slow gun, they just don't know how to prepare mentally for the start and they'll be very unsteady.

If they figure the start will be quick and the starter holds 'em, the runners will probably leave the blocks too soon. At any rate, it leads to false starts or the necessity to call the unsteady boys up. If the athletes prepare mentally for a slow start and instead get a "quickie," they'll be caught in their blocks.



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The starter, inconsistent in this manner, will never gain the confidence of his runners.

A starter should be unafraid to recall a field whenever any one or more of them is moving at the time the gun fires. There's nothing more unfair than a rolling start, and the starter should be determined to let NO one get by with a roll.

Some starters have been known to recall and then, after two or three more unsuccessful attempts, let someone go with a stride on the gun. They might just as well have let the boys go the first time.

I believe the most heinous error a starter can make is to inform a group of runners that he will hold them the required two seconds and then shoot a "quick" gun. Many starters have been known to do this, especially when the race is considered to be a "toughie."

He might get that first race off in fairly good order and thereby extricate himself from a difficult situation. But he'll very definitely create a "distrust of starter" atmosphere that will haunt him in future meets. You MUST be fair with the boys if you expect cooperation at the starting line.

Of course, it's possible to become too 2-second conscious. A starter's main objective is to get all of the boys off together, and whether this is done in 1.7s. or 2.3s. makes little difference. I'm positive that some of my best starts come off at 1.7, 1.8, or 1.9.

I wouldn't recommend anything much sooner than this. Men who get down in the 1 and 1.5 class will be tabbed as "fast" starters and will run into trouble.

I just as strongly advocate that a starter, under normal conditions, shouldn't hold runners much beyond the 2-second mark. Two seconds are just about the optimum for the average boy in starting. If a starter is unable to get the field settled down by that time, he should call the boys up. Failure to do this is likely to result in false starts and recalls.

The writer wouldn't suggest that a starter attempt to determine the 2-second interval by counting to himself (one - thousand - and - one, one - thousand - and - two). A starter could make his count too fast or too slow. The best way to acclimate yourself to 2-second starting is to get out the stop watch and go to work. Every year I spend considerable time before meets in starting and stopping my stopwatch, trying to come as close as possible to two seconds.

A starter should realize, however, that merely getting runners off in

two seconds isn't proof of a good start. A good start materializes when all the boys come out of their blocks together.

In determining when to recall a group of runners, the starter must be cognizant of the fact that none can leave WITH the gun. Many boys have asked me if they can start WITH the gun. My answer, of course, always is no. There must be a reaction time in all instances. Reaction time naturally varies with the runners. But one can't react to a gun shot until AFTER the shot is fired.

When ordering the boys to take their marks, the starter should be careful all of them are ready for the command. I've seen starters put runners on their marks while one or more were standing on the side tying a shoe string or knocking dirt

from their spikes. This can be avoided if the boys are asked to straddle their blocks for instructions and by ordering them to their marks immediately afterward.

Every time runners are "put down" and "called up," nervousness and tension increase. My experiences have taught me that most boys detest this up and down business and definitely want to go the first time. Good starters can, and do, get their boys away the first time, with just an occasional false start or recall.

The guns, incidentally, should be kept immaculately clean. The wise starter will clean his "tools" between prelims and finals so that the artillery will be in perfect shape for the championship races. A dirty gun is sluggish in action and makes quick recalls impossible.

The Great Budge Backhand

(Continued from page 24)

back slowly and increases in velocity as it comes in, reaching its maximum speed at the point of hit. Add to this the Budge weight transfer and controlled use of the body and you have the answer to Budge's tremendous power on the left side.

We firmly believe that the follow through applies only to that part of the swing where the racket face is following out on the intended line of flight and that the follow through ends the second the racket face ceases to follow the line of flight.

We would even go so far as to say that the follow through begins just before the point of impact, as the racket is usually lined up with the line of flight that early. We believe that what is ordinarily termed a follow through is merely an ending of the stroke.

Watching Budge play, we've always been impressed by the length of his follow through. The ball never seems to leave the racket. Ball and racket go out together over the longest possible area.

Of course, weight shifting has much to do with this, since it allows the shoulder to come through the shot—which also enables Budge to reach out on the ball. The ball seems to be cushioned on the racket as it's carried into court. This follow through is the reason for Don's tremendous control over shots he goes "all out on."

One more point completes the follow through. Not until the ball is contacted does Budge rotate his shoulders and hips. This isn't true, as indicated, on close waist-high or higher balls. In these shots, he does rotate the shoulder out of the way to keep his leverage (full arm stroking).

But he rarely rotates his hips or

shoulders on the forward swing when he's in good position. Hip and shoulder rotation is apparent only in the follow through. As Walter Pate puts it, "Hold shoulder and hip back until impact."

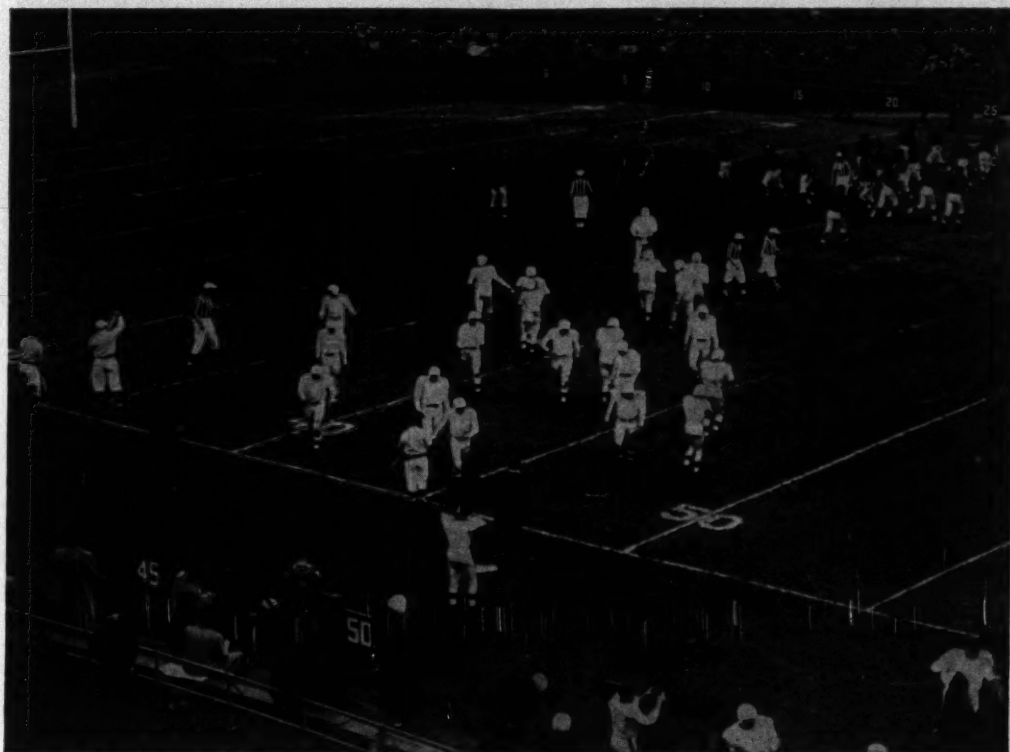
It should be added here that during the follow through, the racket face takes its cue more or less from its position at the point of hit. If open, it usually remains open; if closed, the top edge bevels farther as the racket goes out. When the racket is flat, it may follow one or the other.

If you combine Budge's perfect forward swing with the above concept of what happens at the point of hit and in his follow through, you have the secret of the Budge backhand.

We highly recommend concentration on this kind of follow through on your backhand hitting. Reach out on the ball. Let your shoulder come through the shot and thus increase the length of time your racket face is "on the ball." Also check on the amount of your rotation before you contact the ball. Make your rotation start at the point of hit and continue through the follow through.

The ending of the shot varies. It's almost impossible to state any hard and fast rules. The racket usually comes well across to the right of the body but it often goes straight out on down-the-line shots. The racket will end high on low balls and low on high balls.

The overall impression of the stroke is one of ease, smoothness, and rhythm, the last characteristic being the most important. No swimmer ever set a record without rhythm; no runner of note ever ran without it. Ted Williams has it, so has Sam Snead, and the Budge backhand has it in every inch of the swing.



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Developing Your Mile Relay Team

(Continued from page 14)

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won the mile championship at the 1950 Penn Relays in the second fastest time in the history of the carnival. The best man on the team was Lou Jones (now a star at Manhattan); the second ranking runner was Dick Yaffa (presently doing well for Princeton). Jones, however, had shown his coach, Dan O'Brien, that when in front he had a tendency to fade badly in the stretch. It seemed that the responsibility of anchoring the team weighed a little heavily on him. Yaffa, on the other hand, was a fighter—a natural halfmiler who would hang on to the death. So, at the last minute, Coach O'Brien switched Jones to third and Yaffa to anchor.

The strategy paid off, for Jones, starting far behind, blazed a 48.7 quarter to put Yaffa off some 10 yards in front of Loughlin's famed Vernon Dixon. And Yaffa hung on with a brilliant 49 quarter which staved off Dixon's great finish.

In some relay meets—Penn, for example—there may be as many as 12 or 14 teams crowded into one event; and, under such conditions, the race is often decided on the very first leg.

Some coaches feel that it's advisable to run their fastest man first, particularly if they draw an unfavorable position at the start. This is a good plan for, in a mile relay, there's really no good place to be except out in front all the way.

Inexperienced high school runners are apt to become discouraged when behind, so you may find it wise to put your best man first and gamble that the other three can hold any lead he builds up.

What kind of baton pass should the high school mile relay team use? Again, this depends upon the experience of the runners and the racing conditions. Because the incoming runners are tired and aren't traveling at top speed after a full 440, the "blind" pass isn't recommended, as it is for the sprint relays.

The safest method—recommended in crowded fields—is the "grab" pass. In this type of exchange, the incoming runner holds the baton arm straight out in front, almost parallel to the track, for the last three or four strides, and lets his

teammate "grab" it from him with the opposite hand.

The fastest pass for the high school mile relay—and the one used by most colleges—is the "under-hand visual" pass. In this method, the outgoing runner, looking over his shoulder, proceeds down the track with his arm extending downward and slightly back at an angle of approximately 30° from the shoulder. The hand is held so that the thumb and forefinger form a wide V. The incoming teammate transfers the baton to this V with an upward motion, as he comes alongside.

Most teams use a left-to-right-hand pass; that is, the finishing runner carries the stick in his left hand and transfers it to the right hand of his partner, who then changes it over to his left.

Many teams fail to realize, however, that in the outer positions, a pass from right hand to left, with the outgoing runner facing the pole, is by far the best. This will save an amazing amount of yardage.

In case you wonder how, try this experiment: Brush the track smooth so that all footprints will show. Then try the standard left-to-right pass from an outside position. Follow this with a right-to-left exchange from the identical post with the same boys operating. Examine the two sets of spike marks and you'll be surprised at the difference.

Some high school coaches eschew the April relay meets on the grounds that they haven't time to specialize with a mile relay while trying to prepare the team as a whole for dual meets and sectional championships in May.

We believe in the contrary that work with a mile relay will pay tremendous dividends later on to the whole squad, that in a small school, this foursome will go on to become the backbone of the team. The sprinter who makes it will be a better sprinter because he's built up his endurance; the middle-distance man should be vastly improved because of the speed he's acquired.

We also feel that trips to the big relays in April are tremendous incentives to the whole squad. Win or lose, they're terrific morale boosters.



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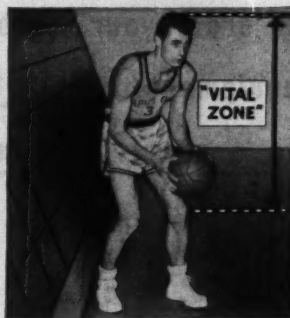
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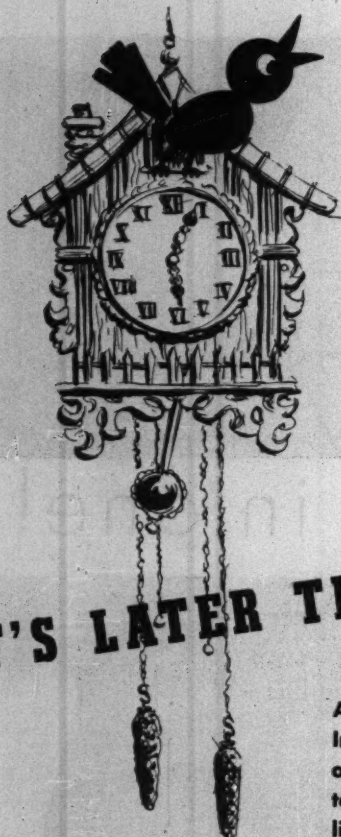
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Make Track Pay

(Continued from page 36)

3. Bring the shotput, discus, javelin, high jump, broad jump, and pole vault onto the infield as near the finish line and the crowd as possible.

Many schools are using built-up shaving pits for the pole vault and high jump. These can be quickly hauled away and thus won't damage the contour of the gridiron during the fall season.

You want the public to be interested in these field events. They'll be willing to stay seated in the prescribed area if you'll keep them informed on the progress of the events.

This can be done by the use of field event markers large enough to be easily read from the stands. The use of a good announcer and an audible public address system are also "musts" in any well-organized show.

The public is like a small child. If you beg them repeatedly to stay off the track, you'll be in for a long afternoon of coaxing. But let the announcer authoritatively state that all spectators and all contestants and officials not busy at the moment must remain outside the competitive area, and there'll be no further trouble! A four-foot six-inch fence separating the track from the stadium is a tremendous aid in this respect.

GOOD SCHEDULING

Whenever a crowd thinks a great contest is in prospect, whether a heavyweight fight or a football game, they'll respond in goodly numbers. The same holds true in track. This calls for sound, sensible scheduling. The anticipation of a good race will bring the people through the turnstiles; and it goes without saying that the publicity for the outstanding events must be built up through the press and radio just as in football or basketball.

Even in years when the squad isn't up to par and the prospects for a team victory are dim, track is unique in that just a few stars among the dozen events may be enough to bring out the crowds.

Where a close team struggle is involved, the frequent announcing of the score over the p.a. system and the presence of a large scoreboard showing the progress of the meet from event to event, will do much to maintain an exciting tempo.

In stimulating interest among the boys themselves, remember that

their pictures, names, and records in the papers, along with their listing on the school record board, represent magic forces that will drive them to ever greater accomplishments.

The interest span of most people is around two hours. A double-header in baseball bores many fans. As the afternoon creeps on, they tend to become fatigued and jaded. Many basketball fans stay away from preliminary games for much the same reason.

In track, the official time schedule runs approximately two hours. This probably is too long. Yet scores of meets run over three hours and some last all afternoon! This procrastination is murderous from the spectator viewpoint.

A RIGID TIME SCHEDULE

While the rule book calls for a ten-minute interval between running events, it would be advantageous (from the fan's view) to shorten the interval to five minutes where the dashes, hurdles, quarter mile, half mile, mile and relay are concerned.

There'll be no trouble maintaining a time schedule if coaches and athletes are informed in advance that the meet will be run on schedule and that the events will be started promptly whether all the contestants are on hand or not. As soon as this businesslike attitude is exhibited, the problem will disappear.

In closing I'd like to reemphasize the importance of public relations. This includes newspaper and radio, as well as parent and luncheon group contacts. Besides calling attention to the accomplishments of the athletes, the spotlight should also be trained on the visiting coaches and the former stars who'll be assisting with the officiating.

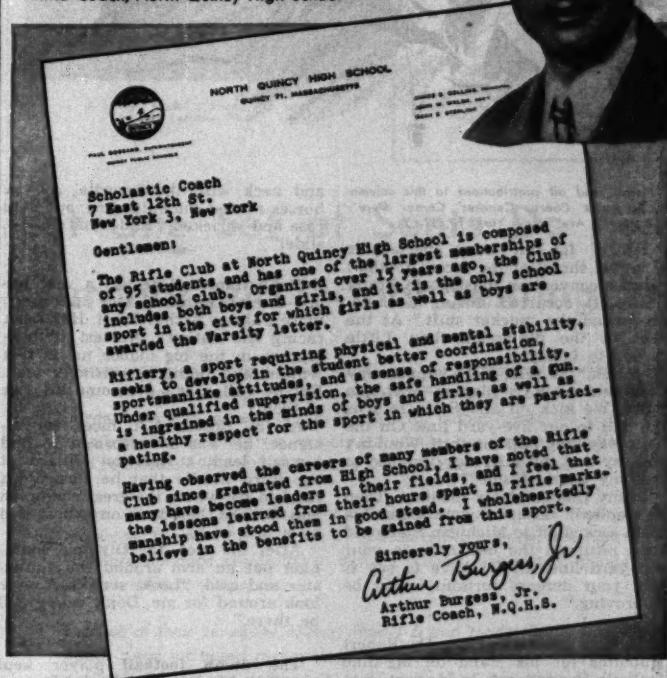
The enthusiasm of these former track men, their willingness to give freely of their time, forms one of the brightest chapters in amateur sport.

Color is another essential of the successful meet, and on this score we may borrow from football. Our stadia during the fall are filled with thousands of people who don't know a first down from a double reverse. But they do enjoy the music, the antics of the cheering squad, the wild cheering, the parades, and the feeling of being part of a great event.

The same psychology should be applied to track. Many more cash customers will attend a meet or carnival if promised "spectacle" in addition to struggle. For this reason, you shouldn't overlook the contributions to be made by the band, the flag raising ceremony, the queen and her honor court, etc.

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COACHES' CORNER



Please send all contributions to this column to Scholastic Coach, Coaches' Corner Dept., 351 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N. Y.

CREDIT for the most spectacular verbal thrust of the recent football coaches convention must go to Frank Leahy. It occurred during a lively session on the "sucker shift." At the heat of the discussion, Lou Little turned to Leahy.

"Frank," he said, "let's suppose my Columbia team is playing Michigan State. We kick off and State returns the ball to our five-yard line. On the next play they pull the shift. Wouldn't you say that the shift was designed to pull my team off-side?"

Leahy thought for a moment. Then he replied, "Lou, if your Columbia team kicked off to Michigan State and they returned the ball only to your five-yard line, all I'd have to say is that your defense certainly must be improving."

Though you may oppose Dr. Robert Hutchins for his stand on big-time football, you've got to respect him for his intelligence and wit. It was Hutchins who once told a House committee that "A college might as well sponsor a racing stable as a big-time football team. The jockeys could wear the school colors and the horses wouldn't have to pass the entrance examinations."

That dandy little gentleman and lover of umpires, Leo Durocher, was watching a class at an umpires' school. Bill McGowan was instructing the embryonic umps on the art of calling a man out at the plate. After about an hour of this, Durocher blew his top. "You bum," he rasped, "don't you ever call a man safe?"

And then there was the baseball manager who loved to bet on the horses. One afternoon, after losing seven straight races, he got a tip and plunged his last \$50. His horse broke fast and stayed up there all the way around. Down the stretch, it was neck

and neck with the favorite. As the horses neared the finish line, our hero rose and shrieked, "Slide, you ———, slide!"

Manhattan College has a real up-and-coming hurdling star in sophomore Charles Arthur Pratt. He's been racing the nation's greatest timber-toppers in the big indoor meets this winter, and doing surprisingly well. But he still hasn't overcome his awe of them.

At the Boston A.A. meet, for instance, he was so surprised to find himself leading Harrison Dillard at the third hurdle that he turned his head to see where the great champion was. Dillard then came on to beat him by a foot or so.

After the race, the Olympic champion put an arm around the youngster and said, "Look, son, don't ever look around for me. Don't worry; I'll be there."

The dumb football player kept pleading, "Coach, send me in! Lemme at 'em! Lemme get in there, woncha?" The coach held up a hand, "Aw, stop bothering me. Why don't you go across the field and talk to the coach of your own team?"

After reading about the feats of Phil Harris, Elk City (Okla.) quarterback whiz, Coach Vic Reaves of Portageville (Mo.) H. S. felt compelled to inform us about his wondrous junior, Don Hawkins, who quarterbacked his club to an unbeaten season (10-0). Don had a pretty good year, as attested by these gaudy statistics:

1. Completed 91 out of 153 passes, and had only three passes intercepted all season.
2. Passed for 1492 yards, an average of 149.2 per game.
3. Hit for 14 td passes, with 8 others being called back.
4. Converted 33 out of 41 extra-point kicks.
5. Kicked two field goals, one for

21 yards and the other for 33 yards.
6. Averaged 35.5 yards per punt and didn't have a kick blocked all season.

Coach Bob Brian of Gustine (Cal.) H. S. puts in a plug for his backfield ace, Joe Silva. Joe racked up 211 points in 10 games, on 32 touchdowns and 19 conversions. In Gustine's 74-0 rout of Le Grand, the Silva kid (or should we say, Golden boy?) tallied 60 points on 9 tds and 6 extra points!

Umpire Art Passarella is still embarrassed by that bum call he made on Johnny Sain in the world series. The pictures the next morning showed Sain right smack on first base, with the ball a good five feet from Gil Hodges' mitt! However, umps can do no wrong and Art still maintains that the picture is misleading. "I don't believe it," he says, "it's what you call an optical conclusion."

"We're mighty proud of our football teams," writes Wilbur Opydke, athletic director at Brewster (N. Y.) H. S. "We've lost only one of our last 35 games, and that to a school with a much larger enrollment. Our 1952 eleven compiled quite a record. Besides winning all 8 of our games (the maximum permitted in N. Y.), we held our opponents scoreless—quite a feat in this high-powered offensive era. Can any other high school make that claim (for 1952)?"

Since the annual draft of the National Pro Football League is supposed to offer a pretty reliable index to the caliber of college football being played in the various sections, you'll probably be interested in the statistics revealed by the 1953 draft. In the first 12 rounds of picks, the Southeastern Conference led all the rest with 36, the Southern was second with 28, the Big Ten third, with 23, the Pacific Coast next with 22, followed by the Southwest with 20, the Big Seven 14, and the Ivy League 5.

This is interesting but hardly conclusive. After all, the Southeastern Conference embraces 12 members and the Southern Conference 17, and you'd expect them to have wider representation than the Big Ten and Big Seven.

Since Ford Frick forbade the big league clubs to make a deal for Jim Rivera of the White Sox, the New York sportswriters have been singing, "Rivera, Stay Away from My Door."

Concerning Giant-pitcher Larry Jansen's seven kids, one Will Jordan exclaims, "What a bratting average." Isn't that a take-off on that famous crack about Frank Leahy's brood (which numbers about or six or seven): "You know Leahy; he was never one to keep the score down."

Probably the most fantastic success story in high school sports concerns the wrestling teams of Mephram H. S., Bellmore, Long Island (N.Y.). Since

the sport was introduced in 1937, the team has lost *only one match!* It rolled up 100 straight wins, then lost to Baldwin H. S. That was in 1946. Mephram then launched another streak, which on January 30, 1953 reached the century mark again. Its victim? Baldwin H. S.!

Drilled to perfection by their master coach, Sprig Gardner, the Mephram grapplers have won their league and sectional titles 15 years in a row, produced two national AAU champions, several Eastern collegiate champs, and a national intercollegiate champion. Year in and year out, the team is rated on par with the average college team.

What goes on with our American dames? Do they wanna start a war or something? They're stealing the shirts right off our British cousins' backs. No kidding. Since *Today's Woman* pointed out that the English Rugby Shirt makes a "wonderful T shirt," that it's most practical for sportswear and knockabout, it's become a big item in the nation's bargain basements. Made of fine cotton knit with a stiff white collar and rubber buttons, it comes in six colors and in nine sizes—26 to 42 chests.

This is a tragic blow to the likes of Dagmar and Jane Russell. How are they ever going to get into a mere 42?

We owe Lubbock (Tex.) H.S. an apology. In our All-American H.S. Football selections last month, we stated that six schools gleaned individual honors by placing two boys on our honor squad. We should have said seven, for the powerhouse Lubbock club—champs of Texas—placed a fullback (Jim Welch) and a tackle (Jim Gafford).

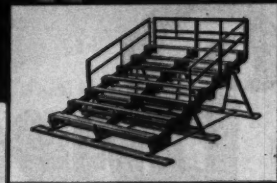
Down in Texas, where Doak Walker is every boy's hero, so many members of a jr. h.s. eleven insisted on wearing his number (37) that on opening day all 11 starters showed up with "37" on their jerseys!

Quite a gent is Doug Jones, of California Baptist Seminary. Playing tailback in C.B.S.'s short punt, he threw two td passes left-handed and three right-handed. To prove his remarkable ambidexterity, Doug throws and bats right-handed in baseball (he's an excellent outfielder) and shoots left-handed in basketball (he's the team's leading scorer).

Ivan Mears, the school's athletic director, also tells us that C.B.S. boasts one of the most left-handed basketball teams around. Most schools are content to have just one or two southpaws in the line-up. Not C.B.S. They boast three left-handers on the first team plus two port-siders in reserve. What's more, two other left-handed hoopsters, one a regular last year, were unable to come out this season. This certainly must be some sort of record—if only a left-handed one.



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Edited by H. V. PORTER

Secretary, National Football Committee

1953 Changes in the H. S. Football Rules

INASMUCH as the annual questionnaire survey revealed a high degree of satisfaction with the existing football code, the National Federation Football Committee felt no necessity to make any drastic alterations at its annual meeting in Kansas City on January 2-3.

The free substitution rule, which was wiped out by the college legislators, remains as is. Since 90 to 95% of the high school men expressed approval of the rule, it's apparent that our schools want no part of the old restrictions on substitutions.

The following rules revisions, representing clarifications for the most part, were authorized by the Committee:

1-3-2: A tan colored ball with a one-inch white stripe near each end of the lace is now considered the officially recognized ball for all games, day or night. The rule will provide enough elasticity to permit use of balls of another color or colors provided both teams agree, but their use is not encouraged.

1-5-1: It will be recommended that a pliable mouth and teeth protector be worn.

3-5-1: The clock shall start with the snap or a free-kick at the beginning of each period.

3-6-1: A "ball is ready-for-play" signal is authorized and Officials will be requested to use it. The new Football Officiating Manual will indicate the signal and how it should be used.

4-3-3: The P.R. will be slightly revised to make it clear that, in the outlined out-of-bounds situation, the ball may be taken by R at the inbounds spot if they do not choose to accept it at the spot of first touching.

5-3-2: When a new series is started after a change of team possession, the first stake will be set approximately 11 inches (ball length) from the forward point of the ball at the time it became dead. The former forward point thus becomes the rear point after the direction of offense is changed.

6-1-6: If a kicker catches his own free-kick, the ball becomes dead the same as for his recovery of the ball after it has touched the ground.

6-2-3: The word "catch" will be inserted in the last sentence to make it clear that the dead ball provision applies both to catching and recovering after the ball has touched the ground.

6-3-2: For a return-kick, a line through the kick is substituted for the scrimmage line. This line is used in determining the rights of players as far as kicking rules are concerned. In determining what protection the kicker receives, the return-kick is considered the same as a quick-kick. It is not intended that the line which is substituted for the line of scrimmage justifies clipping near the line or handing the ball forward if recovered after the kick is blocked.

6-4-2: The fair catch rule which permits R² to make a fair catch after R¹ signals and muffs the ball was discussed at some length. It was voted to make no change but to instruct the Research Committee to make a special study of this matter and to emphasize that the unsportsmanlike conduct rule should be rigidly enforced when a player who has no chance to catch the kick signals for deceptive purposes.

7-2-1: The snapper may have his finger or fingers on the front part of the ball.

7-5-2: Ineligible linemen may make their initial charge

and hold their positions during a forward pass but, if they're appreciably beyond the neutral zone, it is pass interference if they're touched by the forward pass while still ineligible. The Case Book will outline the situations in which the plane of the line of scrimmage is used and the situations in which the area in the vicinity of the neutral zone is used.

Page 37: The forward pass table, as used in the 1952 football meeting folders will be used.

9-2-1: Striking with the forearm or elbow is as dangerous as striking with the fist. A slight revision will make it clear that this act results in disqualification.

9-2-3: The place-kick holder will be given protection similar to that now given the kicker. A player becomes the holder when he has possession of the ball. In case an intended holder does not secure possession, the usual unnecessary roughness rules apply.

9-6-1-c: When a replaced player leaves on the wrong side of the field and then walks through the field to reach his own bench, a penalty of 5 yards will be enforced instead of the previous 15 yards. 15 yards may be assessed for repeated or unsportsmanlike action in this connection.

General: Interpretations concerning irregular shifts, punching the ball from the hands of the runner and preventing a touchdown by an obviously unfair act were approved and ordered continued. In general, it is a false start when a shift is made with a sudden charging motion which is the same as that used at the snap. In any case where a change from one shift to two shifts is involved, part of the responsibility is on the Offense and quick charging motions should not be used in changing positions. Pulling the ball from the arm of a runner is permissible but a slapping or batting motion will almost always result in contacting the arm of the runner in an illegal manner.

The following interpretations are to be continued by Committee action. Free-kick lines for K and R continue to be 10 yards apart even if, in an unusual situation, R's line might be in their end zone. If, on an attempted field-goal, the ball goes through the goal (plane), a field-goal is scored, even though the wind might blow the ball back through the goal. If an Official's whistle is erroneously blown while the ball is loose, it is to be considered dead on the yardline where it was at the time the whistle was blown.

GRID FATALITIES SHARPLY DECLINE

FEWER football fatalities were reported in 1952 than for any year except 1945, reports Dr. Floyd R. Eastwood, chairman of the American Football Coaches' Committee on Injuries and Fatalities. A total of 10 fatalities were reported, representing a 50% drop from 1951. Other significant points in the report include:

1. Fatalities are more frequently occurred in October than in other months of the season.
2. Injuries and fatalities occur more frequently soon after a boy enters a game. Inadequate warm-up is a more important contributing cause than fatigue. The first five minutes of activity are the most hazardous.
3. The most hazardous position is halfback, especially left half. The least hazardous is guard.
4. Tackling (32.36%) and tackled or blocked carrying the ball (11.93%) account for most fatalities.
5. Defensive fatalities (36.8%) still predominate over those of offensive players (30.67%).
6. Head (49.1%) and spinal (22%) fatal injuries continue to increase. Five of the six direct fatalities in 1952 stemmed from traumatic blows to the head.

The steady increase in the percentage of fatal injuries caused by blows to the head emphasizes anew the need for further research on better headgear, Dr. Eastwood asserts. He claims that improvements in protective equipment haven't kept pace with improvements in coaching and medical skill.

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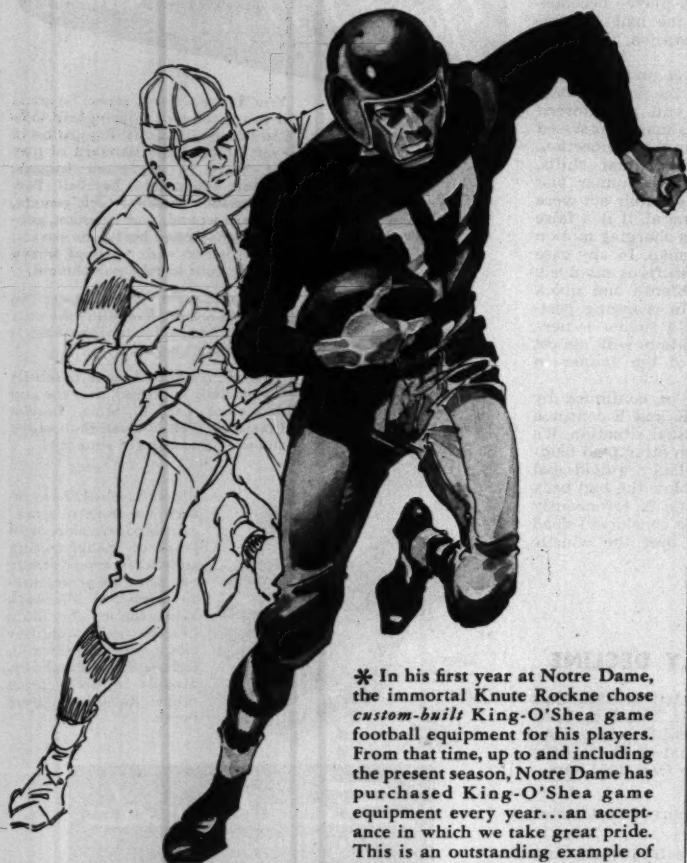
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The Case for the Inside Pass

(Continued from page 7)

excited in close quarters may be protected a bit by the inside pass.

The inside pass has something in its favor on the outside lane, too. In unstaggered races, your outgoing runner must cut across to the pole. If he receives the baton at the same time that several of the others do, he'll be in trouble—since these runners will all be to his left, between the outside lane and the pole. Saving even a single step may enable him to cut across in front of the opposition and reach the inside lane for the long circuit of the track.

Your receiver, in the conventional pass, must turn away from the pole to reach back with his right hand. He must then turn back and cut toward the inside. With the inside pass, he's already turned in the proper direction and doesn't lose the time needed to turn back toward the left. Indeed, this particular feature is one of the pass's merits regardless of lane.

Insofar as the center lanes are concerned, however, I'm a little wary about the inside pass. This is especially true if the race figures to be very close so that the runners from the team on our immediate left are likely to reach the zone almost simultaneously with our own runners.

DANGER SPOT

This puts us in a rather undesirable position, for we cannot then use the inside pass without crowding against the incoming runner on our left, who's using the regular left-to-right pass. If they pass left to right and we pass right to left, any swerving of either runner may result in contact and a spill or a dropped baton. My experience has been that the inside pass in such a position is dangerous.

If you know in advance that your race with a given opponent may be exceedingly close, you may be willing to risk the gamble in order to save the stride gained by the turn to the left. If only your dangerous opponent has a lane to your left, it may be smart to risk a brush with him rather than with the man in the lane to your right.

Furthermore, if your chief threat comes from the team on your right,

and the team inside is slow, you may use the inside pass without fear, because even if you must hold your lane in passing you may find no obstruction on your left at the time you make the inside pass.

If you have to do much racing indoors on the boards, you should consider the inside pass carefully. Whenever you draw the outside lane in a four or five team race, you'll want to get to the pole in a hurry since the straightaways are so short. The inside pass will point your runner in that direction more quickly than the traditional left-to-right pass.

Whenever some of the exchanges must be made on a bank, as they often are in the mile relay, you can afford to try the inside pass. Don't pass it over quickly when unfortunate enough to draw an outside lane which will leave your receiver high on the bank.

The inside pass will give your receiver a double advantage. He'll be turning toward the pole as he leaves the mark, and he'll be getting a downward thrust from the bank itself as he heads into the straightaway.

My own feeling is that the unconventional pass from right to left on the inside has much in its favor under the stipulated conditions. Like any other pass, though, it requires plenty of practice to be successful. Finally, you must make it very clear to your team which type of pass you intend to employ in any given race.

BRITISH SPORTS BOOKS AVAILABLE IN U. S.

ALL the books below are British publications being distributed in the U.S. by Soccer Associates, 10 Overlook Terrace, New York 33, N. Y.

• *The story of Football (Soccer)*. By William Lowndes. Pp. 128, illustrated. \$2. (Historical treatise of soccer football from its beginnings up to the present.)

• *Concerning Soccer*. By John Arlott. Pp. 186. Illustrated. \$2.25. (One of England's leading sportswriters examines the history, strategy, and personalities of the game.)

• *Feet First Again*. By Stanley Matthews. Pp. 138. Illustrated. \$3.25. (The autobiography of the greatest soccer player of the age.)

• *All About Dogs*. By Barbara Joyce. Pp. 24. Color illustrations. 60¢. (A hard-covered pocket-sized book all about dogs.)

• *Scientific Dog Management and Breeding*. By Charles Castle. Pp. 128. Illustrated. \$2.25.



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pending on the speed with which the ball is received and the subsequent throw once it is caught. In some instances the throw is governed by the height of the hands in making the catch. If the ball is caught in a stationary position, or if a stop can be made after catching the ball, an overhand throw is usually made.

However, the demand for a quick throw frequently necessitates a side-arm or underhand throw even though the ball is fielded in a position to throw overhand. This is particularly true on short throws because the possibility of an erratic throw is lessened. Many of these throws are mere flips of the arm in front of the body, and not long arm sweeps.

The sure play is always made when there is doubt where to throw. This is particularly true when your team is ahead or when there are two out. In

General Infield Defense

(Continued from page 13)

this case first base is usually the logical play. A careful throw is also made on the first half of a double play, and then a hurried throw for the second runner. This guarantees one put-out and makes possible a second, whereas a hurried attempt for the first put-out often means that both runners will be safe.

If the infield plays in, the logical place for the throw is, of course, to the plate. However, once again judgment is involved, because on a slow-hit ball the proper throw might be to first base.

It is normal practice to hold a recovered free or fumbled ball unless there is a definite chance to retire a player. A fake throw under these conditions frequently makes it possible to catch a runner off base. A fake throw works similarly after some thrown balls are caught. A variation of this throw occurs when hard-hit balls are fielded with the infield in. In this case the fake is used to drive the runner on third base back to the bag unless an attempt is made to score.

TAGGING RUNNERS

An infielder straddles the bag when waiting for a throw to tag a runner. This position permits catching accurate throws over the bag, and the tag is executed by merely dropping the ball clenched in the glove hand to the ground in front of the bag. Injuries to the throwing hand are thus avoided.

The tagging position is maintained until the runner slides into the ball and tags himself. (Acting as if the ball is not coming to the base may cause some runners to slacken their speed.) If the runner stops and concedes the put-out, the ball is transferred to the throwing hand and two or three steps are taken toward the runner to complete the tag. This is done to prevent a final effort by the runner to slide wide of the bag. For this reason the defensive player always remains between the bag and runner.

A base runner must, of course, be tagged unless he is required to leave the base from which he is advancing by a force-out situation. It is necessary for the defensive player to keep this in mind, because frequently the stage is set for a force play, then changed because a less advanced runner has been tagged or forced out before the ball is thrown. Players may help each other on such occasions by yelling "Tag him!"

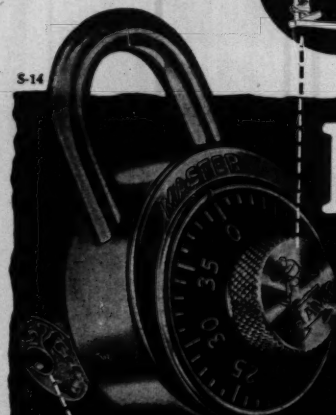
Wide Throws. Many wide throws may be comfortably caught with little change in the position of the feet at the bag. However, if a throw is exceptionally wide the player leaves the bag to make the catch. In some instances he can return to the bag and complete the tag. It is often necessary to dive with the tagging hand extended in an attempt to lay the glove in front of the bag.

THE RUN-DOWN

A runner is chased toward the base farther from home plate in a run-up or run-down. (The runner is maneuvered up and down the base line.) The player guarding this base follows behind and to the side of the runner for a throw so that the put-out can be quickly made. This frequently retires

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the runner with one throw in the run-down, thus making it less likely other runners will advance.

After the put-out is made, a defensive player is always alert for another play (unless the out retired the side) because the run-up usually occurs after a hit ball has been fielded. This means that even though the player caught was the only player on base at the time, the player who hit the ball is now a base runner and may try to advance.

In the run-down, other players have definite back-up duties to guard against the runner getting by players handling the ball. The pitcher usually backs up the first baseman when a runner is caught between first and second bases, and the third baseman if the run-down is between second and third.

In the above situations the shortstop and second baseman work as a team, one handling the ball and one backing up. This depends, of course, on who becomes involved in the run-down first. On run-downs between third base and the plate, the pitcher generally backs up the catcher, and the shortstop backs up the third baseman.

An alert infield plus a good catcher usually retires a runner caught between bases in no more than two throws. However, smart base runners may require more. In such situations it is advisable for the player making a second or third throw to follow past the runner and protect the next continuation of the run-down. This frequently happens when the two defensive players handling the ball get very close together.

Throwing. A modified overhand or sidearm throw is used in run-downs because the runner often obstructs the vision of the thrower. The ball is not thrown, but tossed with a forearm snap. An underhand toss accompanied by a step toward the receiver is also employed near the completion of the run-down. A step is made to the side of the runner prior to making this type of throw unless a position to the side of the runner has already been established. This eliminates the danger of hitting the runner with the ball.

Blocking Runners. It is important to avoid blocking the runner when not in possession of the ball. Blocking constitutes interference and permits the runner to advance one base. (Other runners can also advance.) In fact, some smart base runners deliberately attempt to run into a player without the ball when they know that further advancement is unlikely, hoping that interference will be called. Infielders must guard against these tactics.

The Pitchout. The catcher has a pitchout sign with each infielder. The play usually originates with a sign from the catcher, and the infielder responds with a signal, such as touching the peak of the cap, to inform the catcher he has received the sign and will cover.

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New Books on the Sport Shelf

- **BASEBALL: Major League Techniques and Tactics (Revised).** By Ethan Allen. Pp. 320. Illustrated—photos and diagrams. New York: The Macmillan Co.

HERE'S real good news for you baseball men. Our old friend and baseball mastermind, Ethan Allen, has revised his superlative text and did something we thought impossible—improved on a masterpiece.

Baseball appeared originally in 1939 and was immediately hailed as one of the two or three best books on the sport ever written. It has been reprinted many times during the intervening years, but this is the first revision.

The former big league star, now coaching at Yale, has gone over his text with a fine comb and eagle eye—enlarging, pruning, altering, adding—bringing everything completely up to date.

Not only the text but the illustrations as well. For the past five years, Ethan's been roaming the big league parks with a magic-eye camera, and his book is the beneficiary thereof. It contains a huge number of progressive action sequences demonstrating all the basic skills and techniques—as performed by the greatest players in the game!

The text is a beauty, offering a detailed, crystal-clear analysis of every component of the game. Allen covers his ground in 18 big chapters, namely: General fundamentals, the pitcher, the catcher, general defense for infielders and outfielders, general infield defense, the first baseman, general defense for the second baseman and shortstop, the second baseman, the shortstop, the third baseman, the outfielder, batting, bunting, base running, sliding, coaching, the manager, and signals.

Everything is covered exhaustively and illustrated with either magic-eye sequences or single action shots of big leaguers. It will bat .450 for any coach in any league.

- **TENNIS FOR TEACHERS (Enlarged Edition).** By Helen I. Driver. Pp. 219. Illustrated photographs and drawings. Madison, Wis.: Helen Driver. \$3.50.

NOW in its fourth printing, thanks to the constant demand from teacher-training schools, physical education instructors, and tennis specialists, *Tennis for Teachers* remains a singularly valuable tool for absolutely everybody wishing to teach or play the game.

The author, formerly associate professor at Boston U. and ex-director of women's tennis at the U. of Wisconsin, tells exactly how the game should be played, taught, and enjoyed.

There's nothing dogmatic about her approach. From an intensive study of

the world's greatest players, she's worked out a remarkably simple and sound teaching method, which keeps a perfect balance between theory, practicability, and individual idiosyncrasy. Rather than strive for impossible perfection of style, she stresses the point that the pupil must strive for ease of execution in his own way.

The text is soundly organized in 24 chapters, namely: The game of tennis, equipment and courts, terminology, good form, ball spin, coaching the individual player, forehand drive, backhand drive, footwork, elementary games for forehand and backhand drive practice, serve, common faults, the three-stroke game, volley, lob, overhead smash, chop and slice, tactics, teaching problems and lesson planning, the backboard, tests, use of rhythm in coaching, organization of programs, and the question clinic.

A bibliography and an appendix of the official rules round out the text.

The book is well-illustrated with both single and progressive action pictures, as well as free-line drawings. It's unusually well-written, very easy to follow, and represents a splendid source of sound, professional information on stroke production.

- **RECREATION LEADERSHIP.** By H. Dan Corbin. Pp. 465. Illustrated—photos and tables. New York: Prentice-Hall, Inc. \$6.65.

SINCE most of the writing in the field has emphasized the theoretical side of single subjects, the writer, a physical education professor at State Teachers College, Lock Haven, Pa., set out to compound all the essential aspects of recreation leadership into a single work, with special emphasis on the functional and usable aspects.

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The book will give anyone all the necessary principles and materials needed to organize and direct a well-

rounded and varied program of recreational activities.

- **THE ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF INTRAMURAL SPORTS** (Second Edition). By Louis E. Means. Pp. 466. Illustrated—photos and tables. St. Louis: The C. V. Mosby Co. \$5.75.

WHEN this book made its initial appearance in June 1949, we said that it was "a prodigious text, probably one of the two or three best books of its kind ever published . . . compounding all the ABC's of intramurals . . . The illustrations are excellent, the writing superb, and the organization impeccable. It is a tremendous contribution to the field."

Time has not dimmed our enthusiasm, and others must feel the same way—for most of our major colleges are now using it as a text or source for professional leadership training.

The book offers voluminous practical aids on absolutely every subject—point systems, competitive units, awards, rules and regulations, noon-hour program, financing the program, community relationships and participation, motivation, co-recreational activities, administrative problems and responsibilities, and much, much more.

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A wonderful chapter on practical aids and suggestions tells you exactly how to make stock forms, scorecards, scoreboards, valuable facilities, and how to lay out most of the common playing fields and courts.

Miscellaneous

- **Desirable Athletic Competition for Children.** Report of the Joint Committee on Athletic Competition for Children of Elementary and Junior High School. Pp. 46. Washington, D.C. (1201-Sixteenth St., N.W.): American Assn. for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation. 50¢. (An athletic program for children of elementary school age based on the recommendations of medical doctors, cardiologists, physiologists, and orthopedic surgeons.)

- **Kites: A Practical Guide to Kite Making and Flying.** By H. Waller Fowler, Jr. Pp. 95. Illustrated—drawings. New York: A. S. Barnes & Co., \$1.75 (A lively, fact-filled text fully and explicitly illustrated with 58 line drawings)

- **1953 Official NCAA Track and Field Guide.** Pp. 142. Illustrated. New York: National Collegiate Athletic Bureau. \$1. (A splendid job containing the official rules, the results of all the outstanding meets including the Olympics, sectional reviews, and all sorts of records.)

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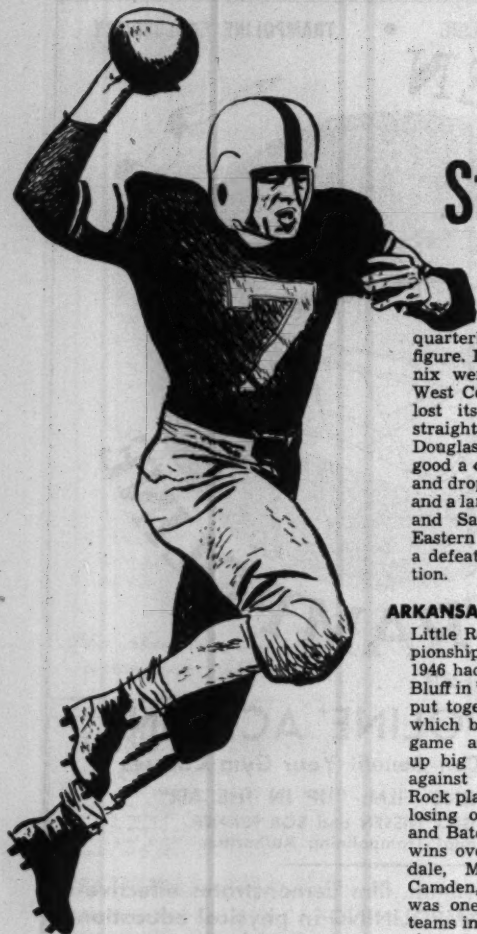
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State High School Football

quarterback Pat Flood as the key figure. In Class B, Carver of Phoenix went undefeated to win the West Central crown. Casa Grande lost its opener, then won nine straight in the East Central loop. Douglas, Southern champs, had as good a claim as any, winning eight and dropping games only to Tucson and a large El Paso school. Thatcher and Safford deadlocked for the Eastern Conference title, each with a defeat and a tie in loop competition.

ARKANSAS

Little Rock got back on the championship path after its string from 1946 had been interrupted by Pine Bluff in '51. Coach Wilson Matthews put together a well-rounded team which began to gel after its third game and then started running up big scores (some in the 50's) against league opposition. Little Rock played schools from six states losing only to Texarkana (Tex.) and Baton Rouge. The Tigers held wins over Norman, Okla.; Clarksdale, Miss.; and Paducah, Ky. Camden, coached by Sam Coleman, was one of the few double-wing teams in the country to win a state championship, downing Rogers, 26-7, for the Class AA crown. Stuttgart's Berry twins proved too much for Searcy in the Class A final, winning a 19-13 thriller on a touchdown and conversion with a minute to play. Coach Ned Mosley's champs employed a very tight single-wing. Earle, tutored by Wallace Jackson, romped over Carlisle for the B title, 38-13.

CALIFORNIA

While no state champion can be determined, So. Cal. does a pretty good job of finding out who is best. Champions of ten Class A leagues meet in eliminations, and it was Santa Monica, on the golden arm of Ronnie Knox (described in last month's All-America story), defeating South Pasadena, 34-6, in the final. Actually, Santa Monica (coached by Jim Sutherland) had been tied by a great Redlands team in the semis but was awarded the game on first downs. The smaller schools play in two sections, Braw-

ley defeated Chino, 20-6, in the Southern half and Paso Robles overturned Palo Verde of Blythe, 20-0, in the North. It's only fair to mention that Glendale-Hoover and San Diego tied for league championships among the larger schools, but lost coin flips for play-off participation. In Northern California, major unbeaten teams were Poly of San Francisco, Berkeley, and Petaluma. Smaller schools that went unbeaten were Willows (32 straight now), Galt, Holy Cross of Santa Cruz, and Hollister. Playoffs are held in four divisions in the San Joaquin Valley. Fresno defeated Porterville in the large class (Yosemite) and Wasco downed Sanger (Sequoia Division), Kingsburg and Lindsay played to a tie in the Shasta group, and Tehachapi downed Parlier for the Sierra crown.

COLORADO

Coach Ray French's Fort Collins team won its tenth AA crown by defeating a fellow Northern Conference member, Longmont, 26-7, in the play-off game. Denny Hartsborn, subbing for an all-state halfback, tallied the last three touchdowns for the champs. The Class A title went to Fort Morgan, which defeated Rifle, 21-14. Holly blasted Meeker, 24-0, for the Class B diadem, while Holy Trinity of Trinidad walloped Cathedral of Denver, 30-13, for the Parochial crown.

CONNECTICUT

Stamford, coached by Paul Kuczo, returned to the top of the heap, according to a press poll. The team had a 7-1-1 record. Danbury, also a Class A eleven, had a better record (7-0-1) but was not as well thought of. Other strong elevens among the large schools included Wilbur Cross (8-1-1) and Ansonia and Weaver of Hartford (6-2-0). Killingly of Danielson, East Haven, and Canton all went unbeaten and untied in the smaller enrollment group.

DELAWARE

William Penn of New Castle was the state's mythical champion, with Newark and Howard of Wilming-

ALABAMA

For the second year in a row, Bessemer was awarded the unofficial Class AAA diadem by the *Birmingham News* poll. The champs, coached by Snitz Snider, earned their title the right way—by drubbing runner-up Butler (Huntsville), 27-6, in the finale. Bessemer also beat co-runner-up Ramsay and four other Birmingham city schools, and now has a 22-game streak going. Among the smaller schools, Verbena, with a 30-game streak, deserves special mention.

ARIZONA

Coach Jason Greer's Tucson Badgers repeated as Class A champions by running through a tough 10-game schedule without defeat. Eight of the victories were over Class A opposition and only Yuma and Mesa were able to come within a touchdown of the champs. Greer's eleven ran from a split-T, with all-state

Champions, 1952

ton giving close chase. Seaford and Caesar Rodney of Camden were leaders in downstate competition.

D. C.

The title was annexed by Wilson. The champs first licked Western in the inter-high playoff, 41-16, after trailing 13-0 at one point, then hurdled St. John's Catholic champs, in the final, 24-6, before 12,000 fans at Griffith Stadium, speed merchant Mike Sommer leading the attack with 115 yards from scrimmage as a single-wing tailback.

FLORIDA

Three Miami schools made it difficult to pick a state champ by beating one another in city competition. They were Edison, Jackson, and Senior. Jackson beat Edison, which in turn upset powerful Senior which had defeated Jackson. Another Jackson High, this one from Jacksonville, had a potent team which carried the Big Ten Conference fight right down to the last week when it was nosed out by Miami Jackson. Senior is not a member of the loop. The state's sportswriters liked Edison in their annual poll and made them mythical champs. Strong small schools winning conference titles were: Fort Pierce (Suncoast), Haines City (Ridge), Hernando of Brookville (West Coast), Apopka (Orange Belt), Ocala (Northwest), and Winter Haven which beat Manatee of Bradenton in the South Florida playoff.

GEORGIA

Murphy of Atlanta copped the Class AA championship by defeating strong Albany, 13-7, in the finals. Georgians, however, seemed to prefer smaller Valdosta, who downed LaGrange, 30-0, for the Class A title. Valdosta received a bid to the Peanut Bowl at Columbus, Ga., and whipped West Springfield, Mass., 28-26, in a thriller. Results in other class finals were: (B) Hogansville 33, Camilla 0; (C) Calhoun 19, Fort Valley 14. Valdosta, coached by Wright Bazemore, was Georgia's only unde-

feated, untied team and is working on a string of 19 victories.

IDAHO

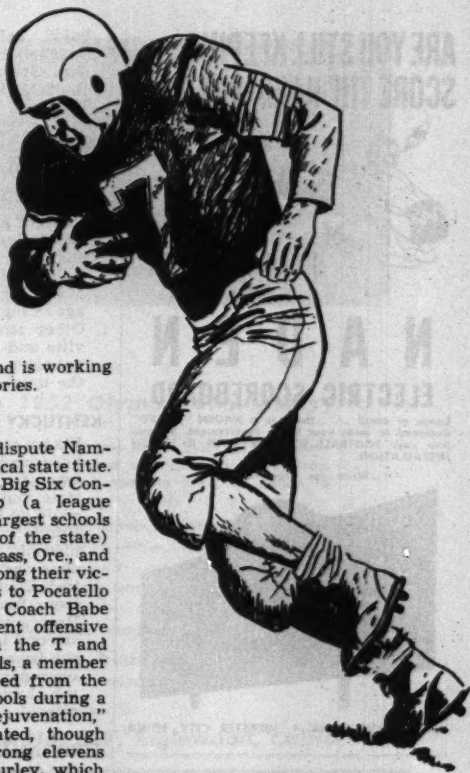
It would be hard to dispute Nampa's right to the mythical state title. The Bulldogs won the Big Six Conference championship (a league composed of the six largest schools in the southern part of the state) and included Grants Pass, Ore., and Great Falls, Mont., among their victims. A surprising loss to Pocatello marred their record. Coach Babe Brown welded a potent offensive club which ran from the T and single wing. Idaho Falls, a member of the Big Six, dropped from the schedules of some schools during a year's period of "rejuvenation," completed an undefeated, though tied, season. Other strong elevens were: Gooding and Burley, which tied for the Big Seven crown; Payette, Snake River titlist; and Lewiston and Sandpoint, which shared the Inland Empire League championship.

ILLINOIS

While Illinois makes no attempt to select a champion, the 1952 season was notable for two features. One was the continued mastery of Terry Brennan's Mt. Carmel team over its Chicago opposition, and the other was the ending of Evanston's domination of suburban schools by New Trier of Winnetka. Both leagues are among the state's toughest. Mt. Carmel was a T-team while New Trier, coached by Walt Aschenbrenner, ran from the single wing. Brennan's team defeated Austin for the city championship, 27-14. Another strong team was Joliet, which won the Big Eight title, though sustaining a tie. East St. Louis, winner of the Southwest title, and Rock Island, of the Northwest, were the only other major unbeaten and untied teams. Oakland, Feitshans of Springfield, Pittsfield, Walnut, Crete-Monee, Herscher, and Hononah of Rockton had unsullied records among the smaller schools.

INDIANA

Richmond's fine eleven was voted mythical state champion and it wasn't hard to see the attraction of



Coach Bill Elias' proteges. The North Central Conference champs averaged 48.7 points per game while holding the opposition to a 5.2 mark. Two Indianapolis schools which did not meet each other—Cathedral and Sacred Heart—also went undefeated, as did the smaller Warsaw of the Northeastern Conference and North Vernon and Warren Central. East Chicago Washington, which defeated South Bend Washington for the N.I.C. title; Gary Emerson, Evansville Reitz, East Chicago Roosevelt, and Hammond were other teams which deserved mention. The fact that none could go undefeated in the tough Western Division of the N.I.C. (Hammond, Gary, East Chicago area) hurt that league in the polls. Richmond, a split-T team, has now won 22 straight in major competition.

IOWA

Newton was the "poll" champion of 1952, with Spencer, East Des Moines, and Red Oak runners-up. Newton's closest margin was eight points over Des Moines Roosevelt, one game going as high as 61 points. Coach Oley Eldahl used a combination of T and single wing and relied on most of his players for two way performances. Other teams with perfect records were: Hum-

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boldt, Jefferson, Tama, Calmar, Teachers High of Cedar Falls, Glidden, Greene, Hartley, Pocahontas, Redfield, Leeds of Sioux City, and Wellman.

KANSAS

Coach Alan Woolard built another strong team at Lawrence and the Eastern Kansas team ran through an eight game schedule undefeated to receive consideration as state champion. Lawrence threw a rock-ribbed defense against its rivals, didn't pass much, but ate up yardage in big chunks along the ground. Other strong teams were Coffeyville and Dodge City, which were unbeaten, and Newton, winner of the tough Ark Valley League.

KENTUCKY

Flaget, one of the two large Catholic schools in Louisville, was the team to beat in the Blue Grass state, but nobody within the state could do it and Coach Paul Miller's Braves were awarded the championship honor. Flaget dropped a close one to Oak Ridge, Tenn., and tied Chattanooga Central, Volunteer State title claimant. The Braves were big, with four of their starters topping the 200 mark, and ran from a Split-T. Other top teams were developed at Mayfield, Paducah, Lynch, and Lexington Lafayette.

LOUISIANA

Fair Park of Shreveport showed one of the South's finest prep teams in 1952 and won the state AA championship from St. Aloysius of New Orleans, 20-0, in the championship game. Quarterback Gene Saur hit halfback A. L. Williams three times for scores in the second half to deflate St. Aloysius' hopes. The runner-up had previously eliminated Istrouma of Baton Rouge which was seeking an unprecedented third straight crown. It was the first championship in history for Coach Homer Prendergast's Indians. Kenner downed Donaldsonville, 19-6, for the Class B title, while Reserve defeated Springhill in Class A.

MAINE

Portland went undefeated in its state to win the Large School crown. The champs were beaten only by perennially tough Weymouth, Mass. Morse of Bath was the medium size champ, while Orono claimed the title among smaller schools. Jimmy Sibson coached Portland, Bob Frink handled Morse, and Bob Emerson was the Orono mentor.

MARYLAND

No state champion is determined in Maryland, but the nod would have to go to either unbeaten Frederick or Baltimore champion, Patterson Park. The latter team, coached by Irv Biasi, had its best in history,

and won its sixth city title in seven years. Patterson also defeated strong Allentown, Pa. It ran from the T, with short punt plays varying the attack. Homer Brooks, Frederick's mentor, was voted "Coach of the Year" by the Maryland Junior Chamber of Commerce. Brooks never played football in high school.

MASSACHUSETTS

Lowell ended Weymouth's two-year reign as Eastern Mass. Class A champions. Ray Riddick coached the new champions, who had last won in 1949. West Springfield won the Class A title in the Western part of the state and absorbed a 28-26 defeat in the Peanut Bowl from Valdosta, Georgia champion, for the only blotch on its record. Watertown was Eastern Class B champ, while Amesbury won in Class C.

MICHIGAN

Press polls were said to have such an adverse effect on high school gridders in 1951 that the coaches brought pressure to have them stopped in 1952. *Scholastic Coach* doesn't want to become involved in the controversy, but had the polls been held leading candidates for the "state championship" would have included: Ann Arbor and Port Huron (both undefeated), Benton Harbor, Bay City Central, Alpena, Muskegon, Wyandotte, U. of Detroit High, and Grand Rapids Catholic Central. Plymouth, which moved from Class B to A, went undefeated but against minor opposition. Hank Fonde, former U. of Michigan star, had his second undefeated season since becoming Ann Arbor coach. Redford St. Mary's, a Class B team, upset U. of Detroit High for the city championship of Detroit. Over 30 smaller schools had unbeaten seasons.

MINNESOTA

Several schools with fine records could lay claim to the mythical state crown, but the *Minneapolis Tribune* picked Bemidji as No. 1 in a poll which is considered about as official as you can get in the Gopher state. Coach K. E. Wilson's eleven from the Northwest region romped through eight opponents by at least 17 points in every game. Unlike most Minnesota preps, Bemidji isn't a member of any conference, and seeks out the strongest schools in the state to play in addition to a few natural rivalries. Johnson of St. Paul was rated second with a 9-0 season, and other top rated teams were: Morgan Park of Duluth (8-0), North (8-1), Edina (8-0), Pipestone (8-0), St. Cloud Tech (8-0-1), St. James (9-0), Cambridge (8-0), and Melrose (8-0). Undefeated in weaker competition were: Mountain Lake, Red Lake Falls, Lakeville, Aurora, Chisago City, and Granite Falls. Red Wing



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MISSISSIPPI

Hattiesburg retained the championship of the Big Eight Conference in the Southern half by defeating Northern champ, Jackson, 14-0, in the playoff game. The Tigers, coached by Red Galey, a split-T man, achieved their triumph without the services of Ollie Yates, 180-pound quarterback, who was voted "player of the year." Yates sustained a broken hand in the eighth game of the season. Yazoo City had a fine team, winning the Delta Valley Conference with an undefeated

record, while Canton's team won the title in the Choctaw loop, another strong circuit among the smaller group.

MISSOURI

No state champion is crowned in the Show Me state, but Raytown, with an undefeated team, was a possible claimant in Class A. The big news was the extension of Sikeston's undefeated streak to 47 games. St. Joseph Benton was undefeated but tied in Class A competition, tying with Central of the same city for City League and Pony Express Conference titles. In Kansas City, Northeast was public champion and Rockhurst took the pa-

rochial crown. Jefferson City and Columbia were co-champs in the tough Central Mo. loop and St. Louis University High was city champion, defeating McKinley for the title. Other strong teams were fielded at Portageville, Willow Springs, Carrollton, Neosho, Bolivar, and Ritenour of Overland, suburban St. Louis champ.

MONTANA

Missoula won the Class AA championship, defeating Billings handily, 27-0, in the state finale. An alert defense stifled Billings' fine passing attack in the rain. Hal Sherbeck, Missoula coach, was serving his first year at the helm of the champions, who dropped two games during the season and tied for the regular season championship with Butte and Billings, but won the playoff. Central Catholic of Butte defeated Dawson County of Glendive, 12-7, in the East-West playoff for the Class A championship. Class B schools play only to regional titles and the champions were: Central Catholic of Billings (South); Chinook (North); Dillon and Polson, who played a 13-13 tie in the West; and Wolf Point (East). Coaches of the B champs were: Bill Osborne (Billings Central), Karl Fisk (Chinook), Royal Morrison (Polson), Ben Tyvand (Dillon), and Bob Lowry (Wolf Point). Jim Sweeney, another first year mentor, brought Butte Central its title.

NEBRASKA

Lincoln Central fielded another powerhouse which achieved top place in the Class A ratings. The champs were tutored by Bill Pfeiff, who has now guided his charges to two straight unblemished seasons. They defeated teams ranked 2, 3, 4, and 5 in the state to make it unanimous. Class B champion was harder to establish. Minden, winner of seven games (no losses), was awarded first place, with York (8-1) in second, defeated only by Columbus of Class A. In Class C, the clear choice was Cambridge which lost only to larger Minden. Scottsbluff, rated No. 2 in Class A, showed a victory over Fort Collins, Colorado champion.

NEVADA

Dick Trachok's Reno Huskies captured another state crown by exploding in the fourth quarter of the championship game with Elko to win, 28-7. The champs had a record of 8-2, losing to Shasta and McClatchy of California. Las Vegas, with victories over Compton and El Monte, two strong California teams, met Reno in the semifinal round but was no match for Trachok's boys, losing 19-0. Reno has a record of 37-2-2 in four years under its present coach, has won three championships outright, and has tied for a fourth.

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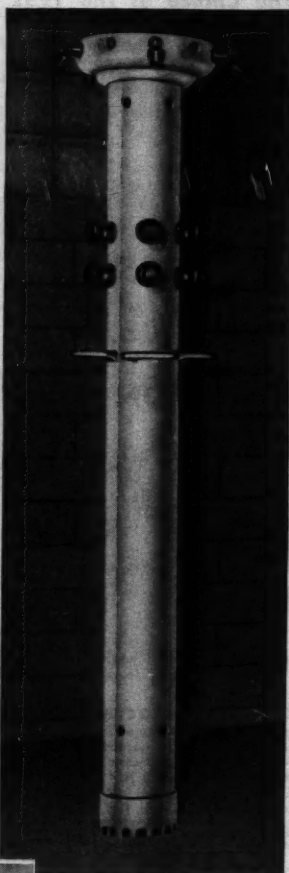
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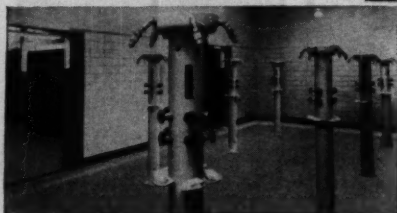
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NEW HAMPSHIRE

Nashua was Class A champ, but Somersworth of Class B grabbed as many headlines as it ran its streak to 23 straight over three years. Nashua was coached by Buzz Harvey, and Somersworth by Jeff Francoeur. Towle of Newport, coached by Craig S. Macmann, was named Class C champion.

NEW JERSEY

New Jersey, which names regional champions only, didn't need its rating system in 1952. It was Clary Anderson's Montclair eleven, back on top of the Group IV heap after a year's absence. The Mounties have now won 41 of their last 42 games—and have run up heavy scores against the highest rated opposition in the state. Plainfield, coached by Abe Smith, had an undefeated, untied season to win Central Jersey Group IV honors. Other Group IV sectional champs were Memorial of West New York and Clifton (North Section 1) and Bridgeton (South). Group III had strong champions in both North Jersey sections, Hackensack (8-0) and Rahway (9-0), Somerville (8-1 in Central), and Woodbury (8-0 in the South). In Group II it was Lyndhurst, Clifford Scott of East Orange, and Cranford, Highland Park, and Burlington and Glassboro. None was undefeated. Hasbrouck Heights, Verona, Lambertville and Matawan and Riverside were the respective Group I titlists—again none with perfect seasons. St. Peter's of Jersey City and Camden Catholic were the North and South Catholic Class A winners.

NEW MEXICO

Farmington won the Class A championship, with Hobbs, Clayton, and Highland of Albuquerque, and Clovis trailing the undefeated champs. Capitan and Lovington went unbeaten in Class B to share the crown.

NEW YORK

Picking a state champion is an impossibility, since the state association recognizes 10 separate districts and each district formulates its own classes. In New York City (non-association members), Lafayette won the public school crown, while Cardinal Hayes, Mt. St. Michael, and St. John's were the top parochial teams. On Long Island (Sec. 8), Mephram, coached by Nick Sabett, won the Nassau County AAA title with a potent single wing attack. In Westchester County (Sec. 1), Glen Loucks' White Plains powerhouse again went undefeated against all comers. Sec. 9 saw Newburgh Free Academy repeating as Duso League champ and Suffern's fine team win the Rockland County League. Albany and Mount Pleasant of Schenectady tied for Sec. 2 Class A honors. Lake Placid an-

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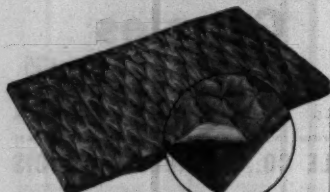
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nexed laurels of the Champlain Valley League (Sec. 7). Sec. 10 honors went to Massena, with only seven points scored against Coach Mike Nicholas' fine team. Christian Brothers of Syracuse ran its streak to 23 straight to cop city honors. Mohawk also went unbeaten in Sec. 3. Ithaca was champion of the strong Southern Tier Conference in Sec. 4, but overall honors went to independent unbeaten Norwich which unearthed a record breaking passer in quarterback Ed Ackley. Winners of the three major loops in Sec. 5 were: West (Rochester City), Newark (Central Western), and Corning (West Central). Niagara Falls won the Frontier League title on the last day but was defeated once. Fredonia and Bolivar, smaller Sec. 6 schools, had perfect records. Buffalo's 14 schools play independently and Bennett defeated Hutchinson, 7-6, in the city playoff. Canisius and Timon, both of Buffalo, shared the Western N. Y. Catholic crown.

NORTH CAROLINA

R. J. Reynolds of Winston-Salem captured its first Class AAA crown by defeating Durham, 12-8, in the playoff. John Tandy coached the new champs who returned the honor to the western half of the state for the first time since 1943. Durham, coached by Carey Brewbaker, had defeated Reynolds, 34-7, during the regular season, but was "down" for the titular game, which came 19 days after the season's close due to four postponements. Harding of Charlotte won the AA title by beating Henderson, 32-13, while Ahsoskie romped to its second Class A crown by taking Bessemer City, 32-13.

NORTH DAKOTA

Class A teams are well-organized into two eight-team leagues, the winners playing off for the championship. Williston tied Shanley of Fargo in the title game, 7-7, turning back a Shanley threat on its one-foot line and moving to the opponents' 15 at the gun.

OHIO

Once again Massillon won the state crown via the polls, Coach Chuck Mather's Tigers going through 10 games without a setback or tie. Springfield's fast team was rated second with an identical record against what the experts felt was slightly inferior opposition. Benedictine of Cleveland and Washington Court House were other strong teams with unmarred records, while Cincinnati Purcell and East Liverpool were once-tied unbeaten. Conference winners included: Chaminade (Dayton City), Libbey (Toledo), East and Ursuline (Youngstown), Fairmont and Miamisburg (Miami Valley), Logan (Southeastern), East (Akron),

Cambridge (Central Ohio), Van-Wert (Western Buckeye), Fremont Ross (Buckeye), Lorain (Lake Erie), East (Columbus), Upper Arlington (Central Buckeye), Shelby and Upper Sandusky (Northern). A strong independent was Ashland, winner of nine straight.

OKLAHOMA

Elvan George's Ada team repeated as Class A champion by defeating Midwest City, 33-6. It was the first time in nine years that a school put titles back to back. The champs ran from a Split-T, with Jay O'Neal, a splendid quarterback, Byrom Beams, 220 pound tackle, and Mike Willoughby, 180 pound end, the star performers. Tonkawa (Travis Rhodes) beat Tahlequah, 27-13, in the Class B final and Tipton downed Greenfield, 12-0, in Class C. Tipton was scored on once in 13 games. Ada's champs were unaccountably torpedoes in a regular season game by Seminole and were ranked fourth behind Duncan, El Reno, and Enid in the annual poll held at the close of the season. Duncan was beaten in a semifinal game by Midwest City, El Reno did not qualify since it was beaten in district play by Duncan, and Enid did not compete.

OREGON

Central Catholic of Portland won the A-1 (Large) crown by defeating Benson Tech of the same city, 7-6, coming from behind to score with 2:16 to play. Harry Scarff coached the winning Rams. The A-2 title went to Keith DeCoursey's splendid Prineville eleven which downed St. Helen's in the finals, 25-12. In previous years A-1 and A-2 competed together, 16 schools being selected for elimination play. The 1952 plan saw eight district champions in each group qualifying, in order to give the smaller Class A schools a title of their own and to reduce the number of tournament games from four to three. Prineville came up with one of the best teams in the state and its record entitles it to be rated right alongside Central Catholic. Coach Dan Rollins' Wallowa team won the Class B crown for the second year in a row, thumping Drain, 27-12, for its 26th straight.

PENNSYLVANIA

Like most other large and heavily populated states in temperate areas, Pennsylvania's state championship must be mythical. There are so many good and evenly matched teams in the state that luck and scheduling play the greatest part in undefeated seasons. Aliquippa had perhaps the top team in Western Pennsylvania. Midland was Class A champion of the same loop, while Carmichaels won in Class B. Carrick High was Pittsburgh city titlists. In the large Western Conference, Ebensburg won in Class A

though DuBois had its first unbeaten season since 1894. The latter just didn't play the right teams to earn enough points in the rating system. Lock Haven took the Susquehanna Conference title. In the huge Eastern Conference, Old Forge downed Sunbury, 6-0, for the title. Lancaster won the strong Central Penn League and Upper Darby with a 9-0 record was Philadelphia Suburban winner. North Catholic kept the Philadelphia city title away from the Public League by trimming Abraham Lincoln in the playoff. An unbeaten team was fielded at Johnsonburg which won nine games. Allentown had one of the state's strongest elevens but lost to Patterson Park of Baltimore while winning ten.

RHODE ISLAND

Cranston, West Warwick, and Burrillville were champions of Classes A, B, and C, respectively. The high scoring West Warwick eleven ran up 324 points in eight league games and was selected to play in the Orange Bowl, where it was outclassed by Miami Senior, 41-14.

SOUTH CAROLINA

The thirteen AA schools play no formal championship schedule, but generally meet one another often enough to give a good line on the mythical champion. Greenville, coached by Slick Moore, was rated first, followed by North Charleston, Parker of Greenville, Spartanburg, and Rock Hill. Greenville won 10 games though sustaining an early season loss to Class A Gaffney. Smaller schools play out their state championships. Results of final games were: (A) Pickens 51, Lake City 7; (B) St. Andrews d. Olympia; (C) Central 28, St. John's Island 13.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Gridiron power was concentrated in the Eastern S. D. Conference. Brookings and Sioux Falls shared the title and their 14-14 tie game was tantamount to a state championship contest. Sturgis of the Black Hills Conference went undefeated in nine games but wasn't rated on a par with the other two. Among the smaller schools, Tyn-dall, Milbank, and Chamberlain had unbeaten seasons. Harold White coached Brookings, Bob Burns tutored Sioux Falls.

TENNESSEE

The mythical race was a toss-up among Columbia, Isaac Litton of Nashville, Chattanooga Central, and Memphis Central. Another strong team was Oak Ridge which hurt Chattanooga's chances for a repeat as undisputed champ by playing them to a tie. Columbia defeated Litton, which in turn beat Oak Ridge—making Columbia and Memphis Central the only teams in

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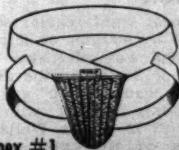
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TEXAS

The long Texas football season saw four champions crowned with repeat performances in the two highest classes. Lubbock downed Baytown, 12-7, a feat which earned Coach C. R. (Pat) Pattison a new contract at \$10,000 per year. Breckenridge again upset Temple, 28-20, in Class AAA, marking the second year Temple had been upset. Terrell drubbed Yoakum in Class AA, 61-13, scoring on nine of the 13 occasions it gained possession of the ball. The Class A final was a more interesting game. Wink defeating Deer Park, 26-20.

UTAH

East Salt Lake trounced Weber County High of Ogden, 27-6, for the Class A crown, all points being scored in the second half. Millard of Fillmore repeated in Class B with a sensational 14-13 win over Brigham Young. Millard, champs for the third year, held a 14-0 half-time lead which disintegrated under a furious B.Y. attack and the losers were in scoring position again on the 14 as the gun sounded. Tally Stevens coached East, while Millard was guided by the veteran Taft Watts.

VERMONT

A post season poll of the coaches names the state champions, and the mentors liked St. Johnsbury Academy in Class A and Woodstock in Class B. Norman Rand, ex-Dartmouth star, coached St. Johnsbury to its first crown since 1906—a perfect record in seven games just nosing out Mt. St. Joseph's of Rutland (6-0-1). Pat Huntington coached Woodstock.

VIRGINIA

Thomas Jefferson of Richmond won the Group I championship with only a 2-0 loss to Petersburg marring a 10 game slate. Three other schools—Norview of Norfolk, George Washington of Danville, and Maury of Norfolk—had only one defeat each, but each also was tied. Shelburn Carmack coached Jefferson's champions who disposed of all other titular claimants.

WASHINGTON

Everett beat eight regular season opponents by margins of 20 points and up and was selected to play Franklin of Seattle in the annual "mythical championship" game on Thanksgiving. Everett won this one too, 27-13. Walla Walla and Gonzaga of Spokane, which played a tie game, were rated second and third. Burlington had an undefeated, untied season in slightly weaker competition,

while Clover Park was tied once. Longview (9-1) had a powerful team which was upset once and had to share the Southwest Conference crown with Olympia. Class B powerhouses were Kalama, Mead, Mossyrock, and Tonasket, all undefeated and untied, but the writers considered Kalama best in its group.

WEST VIRGINIA

Grafton defeated Big Creek of War, 6-0, for the Class A championship. Grafton was held to a net rushing yardage of four and passed for only 44. Big Creek couldn't gain at all through the air but piled up 137 on the ground. Monongah edged Winfield 20-14 for the B crown.

WISCONSIN

Five major teams wound up unbeaten and are entitled to shares in the state title. Beloit ended Kenosha's reign in the Big Eight, a tenure that started in the days of Alan Ameche of Wisconsin U. fame. Nathan Hale of West Allis won nine in a row for the Suburban championship and Boys Tech was Milwaukee City champ. Wausau of the Wisconsin Valley Conference and Green Bay West of the Fox Valley loop were the other claimants. Smaller schools which went unbeaten were: Bloomer, Darlington, Colfax, Denmark, Gillett, Goodman, Medford, Thorp, Westby, and Cathedral of Superior.

WYOMING

Sheridan's Broncs, coached by Carl Rollins, went undefeated in Big Five competition to win the AA crown. Sheridan lost once outside the state to Billings, Mont. Worland defeated Douglas, 26-13, for the Class A crown. Carl Selmer coached the new champions.

In any endeavor of such monumental size as a national high school football review, some mistakes are inevitable. We sincerely hope that the ones made above are trivial. Nevertheless, we'll be exceedingly grateful to have them brought to our attention, and promise a speedy rectification in every instance.

WATCH THIS BIRDIE!

THE R.S.L. Carlton Shuttlecock, a synthetic plastic shuttlecock designed for long life and hard play, having many times the life of the finest shuttlecock made with feathers, has been granted U. S. Patent Nos. 2626805, 2626806, 2626807, effective January 27, 1953. Previous design patents D163356, 163357, 163359 have been in effect for some time.

Batting on the Level

(Continued from page 8)

happens, the ball will go right by him.

A hitter should never make up his mind to hit a pitch before the ball leaves the hurler's hand. This important decision should be made shortly before the ball reaches the plate.

As the pitch come in, the hitter should start his swing—but not too quickly. If the hitter starts too soon, he'll go after bad balls. It's important to remember that the batter has the advantage, since the pitcher has a fixed strike zone in which to pitch.

Always remember that your hips should be moving first on all swings. The step into the ball is short and close to the ground. By deciding to hit the ball before it's on top of him, the batter makes sure to get his full power behind the swing.

The ball should be met just before it crosses the plate. Maximum power is attained by meeting the ball with the arms extended as far from the body as possible. That way you are hitting the ball. If you wait until the ball is over the plate, then the pitcher is hitting the bat, and you lose all power. Remember, also, that at the point of contact the body should be facing the pitcher.

Just as the bat meets the ball, the wrists apply an extra swish. With good wrist action, the batter can make the ball travel farther with less effort than he could by swinging hard and falling off balance.

The batter will know he's doing the right thing if, upon missing the ball, he ends up on the front heel and back toe.

Whenever you watch a good major league hitter like Ted Williams, you'll notice that he keeps his eyes on the pitcher right up until he delivers the ball. He picks up the ball as it leaves the hurler's hand—which is what the young player should practice doing—and by precise timing avoids overstriding. The hitters who overstride are vulnerable to slow balls and will hit lots of pop-ups.

In my 27 years in baseball, I've found that good hitters make sure, when they take their stride, that the front foot—actually the toe of the front foot—points toward the pitcher. This enables them to follow through more effectively.

Contrary to many baseball teachers, I encourage hitters not to try to hit the ball to any particular field. It's far better to concentrate on meeting the ball squarely.



Burt Ingwersen

Burt Ingwersen
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
Len Casanova
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Stan Watts
BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY
Bill Borchert
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

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Sprinting from Start to Finish

(Continued from page 11)

How far in front of the starting blocks should the first step go? Many worry about over-striding or stepping. This happens only when the ankle is brought ahead of the knee on the first step, forcing the power upward rather than forward.

Thanks to the pressure and momentum of the front foot moving the body, the athlete can step as much as 15 to 24 inches ahead of the starting line, provided the knee is above the foot when it lands on the ground. The first steps should be good healthy ones.

The blocks should be left in a smooth rather than a leaping motion. The sprinter should pick up speed continuously and show no pause or break in acceleration upon entering the stride portion of the race.

The body raises to an upright position gradually. An immediate erect position is undesirable because it produces a loss of forward driving power and momentum.

STRIDING

After the start, the sprinter enters the part of the race called the stride. This phase begins at different junctures for each runner. Some athletes generate close to top speed in 15 yards; others take 20, 25, or 30 yards.

Once the stride is reached, the runner must maintain a slightly forward body angle, with his knees coming upward, his head in line with his body, and the body up on the toes. The hips are relaxed and actually swing with the leg.

These factors play an important part in increasing the size of the step without increasing the time it takes to make each step. The size of the stride and leg speed determine how fast the sprinter will run.

The arms are pulled slightly across the chest, but never past the middle half of the body. They're usually raised to shoulder height and swing back to the rear of the hip.

FINISH

The sprinter has now reached a point where he must increase his speed, if possible, for the finish. A breath may help, and vigorous controlled arm and leg speed is desirable.

It helped me to try to run on my

SCHOLASTIC COACH is extremely pleased to present this superb treatise on sprinting, written by perhaps the fastest runner of all time. The incomparable Mel Patton holds the world's record for both the 100 (9.3) and the 220 (20.2). He won the NCAA 100 three years in a row (1947-49) and the 220 twice in a row (1948-49). After being the victim of a surprise upset in the 1948 Olympic 100-meter run, Patton came back to win the 200-meter event. Gifted with a keen, analytical mind, he's the ideal expert on the mechanics of sprinting. He's currently coaching at Long Beach (Cal.) City College.

toes a little more. I could definitely feel a difference when I increased my arm action and got up on my toes.

The athlete should run through the tape. It may help to throw the shoulder just as you meet the finish line. However, this must be a well-timed maneuver. Many times the distance is misjudged—with disastrous results.

A leaping finish can hardly be recommended because of the problems involved in gathering for the jump.

The finish should be the easiest part of the race. The athlete should either run through the tape in normal sprinting form; or use a shoulder thrust if he can time it just as he reaches the tape.

WEEKLY TRAINING PROGRAM

A weekly training program may be arranged as follows:

Monday. Hardest work day of week; warm up, stretching, loosening, and muscle-building exercises, easy jogging, and light running, building up to a few starts; over-distance or maximum distance—300 yards or two 220's.

Tuesday. Warm ups; starts, one or two 75-yard dashes with a few 20-30 yard sprints.

Wednesday. Warm up; starts, 20-30 yard dashes.

Thursday. Light warm up or complete rest.

Friday. Competition.

If the competition is on Saturday, another day of fast starts or an additional day of rest may be scheduled, depending, of course, on the condition of the athlete. The distances run for speed decrease each day until the runner is concentrating on short 20-30 yard sprints.

In his work on starting, the sprinter should be all business. He's there to learn how to start fast with the gun, and no horseplay should be permitted.

I usually work my sprinters, hurdlers (both high and low), and quarter-milers together so that only those needing special training start together. This makes for serious, concentrated practice.

A NUGGET FROM MUNN

IN accepting the 1952 coach-of-the-year award, Clarence (Biggie) Munn made some trenchant remarks on the true American approach to success and satisfaction, which might be digested with profit by all men in the field.

"I didn't arrive in football coaching the easy way. I was born on a farm. I lost my father when I was 8 years old and my wonderful mother brought up five children by working. We all had to pitch in and help. There wasn't much time for play.

"I was lucky to be able to run fast and I had a good strong body. I loved sports, especially football, but my only chance to play was in between jobs to help keep the family going. Until I made the Minnesota varsity I knew football only as an opportunity to pick up some extra money parking cars. I never saw a college game until I made the team myself. I got no scholarship. I worked my way through school doing all sorts of odd jobs.

"Today I say this. By learning things the hard way I humbly believe I learned to do them well. It has been a wonderful help, and a source of deep confidence throughout my coaching career. In fact, it has helped to shape my viewpoint on life and given me an honest simple sense of values. It has given me a feeling and an appreciation about what is worth while and I have tried to communicate my philosophy to my boys, to teach them there are no short cuts, no free rides, that the hard way is the best way."

3

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Schoolboy Decathlon

(Continued from page 20)

to find out his mark. And when I told him, he about-faced and sped another 350 yards into the gym! This boy became the League half-mile champion that same season and went on to set new League and City marks.

Another "discovery" was Dick McDonald. McDonald came out for track as a sophomore, determined to be a high jumper. For the first time in his life, he tried the pole vault (in the decathlon), liked it, and in his senior year won the state championship and set a new Southern California record of 13-7, a mark which still stands.

Each year some individual is "discovered" or does some discovering on his own. In 1950, a huge hulk of a senior, Bob Twitchell, showed up and wanted to become a shot putter. He was an honor student (later received a scholarship to Harvard), weighed 190 pounds, and stood a little over 6-4. He had never participated in any form of athletics, but thought he could become a good shot putter.

Well, he propelled the 10-lb. shot a mighty 33 ft. in the decathlon. But before the season was finished, he ran 10 flat in the hundred, set a new school record of :19.7 in the 180-yard lows, could run a speedy 220 and 440, and picked up a few odd points in the broad jump! In 1951, as a Harvard freshman, Twitchell placed in the IC4A and was selected on the American team which toured Scotland and England.

INDIVIDUAL DUELS

Besides aiding the coach and the athlete, the decathlon is a lot of fun. It always amazes me to discover how the just-average and even the mediocre performers will hook up in private little duels. They don't care where they finish—first or fifteenth—so long as they beat their pals.

You'll also see three shot putters engaging three high jumpers in a total point battle. Or sometimes a baseball or basketball star who's crowed a little too mightily about his prowess will find himself trapped into competing in the decathlon—and will discover that track events require a great deal of guts in addition to sheer ability.

Yes, sir, the decathlon is a tonic to the track program!

Free Literature and Catalogs

ALL the following items are available to schoolmen by checking the Master Coupon or writing directly (as stipulated below). When writing directly to the manufacturers, it's advisable to use your official school stationery.

• *The Care and Cleaning of Athletic Uniforms* is the title of a new booklet compiled and published by the Rawlings Mfg. Co. Its five major sections are devoted to the cleaning of: football pants, football jerseys, baseball uniforms, basketball uniforms, and softball uniforms. Also included are a chart comparing the various popular fabrics and knit materials, an article on the care of uniforms before, during, and between seasons; helpful hints on how to care for uniforms on a trip, and tips on selecting a cleaner. For your free copy, check the "Rawlings" listing in the Master Coupon on the last page.

• *The W. J. Voit Rubber Corp.'s* colorful new 32-page Athletic Equipment Catalog contains all of the 97 Voit rubber and rubber-covered items—inflated balls and related equipment for individual and team sports the year around. Included are several new items such as the Golf Master, a home practice device; the all-rubber Putting Cup, Nose Clips, and Junior Sports Kits. Many improvements have also been made in such standard Voit items as footballs and basketballs, swim masks and goggles, adjustable swim fins, etc. For your copy, write to the W. J. Voit Rubber Corp., 1600 E. 25th St., Los Angeles, Calif.

• *The MacGregor Co.* has recently issued three new catalogs, featuring beautiful full-color covers. Both the "1953 Fall and Winter" and the "1953 Spring and Summer" catalogs contain more than 80 pages of new sports equipment, all of which are graphically pictured and listed. The "1953 Golf and Tennis" catalog offers 32 pages of the finest, latest equipment. Athletic directors who haven't received these catalogs through the mail may obtain any or all of them by writing to the MacGregor Co. at 4861 Spring Grove Ave., Cincinnati 32, Ohio.

• *The Key to Gymnasium Floor Finishing* is a handsome six-page brochure explaining how to line new and old basketball courts and offering tips on the preparation and care of gym floors. Prepared by Huntington Laboratories, it also contains an official diagram of the court and the official rules applying to the markings thereof. For your free copy, write to Huntington Laboratories, Inc., Huntington, Ind.

• *The new 16-page 1953 Spring and Summer Catalog* recently issued by The General Athletic Products Co. of Greenville, Ohio, illustrates and describes the company's complete line of baseball, softball, gym, track, and tennis clothing, as well as its full line of award jackets and travel coats.

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BIKE ALL NYLON SUPPORTER

World's lightest, most comfortable supporter! Soft, cool, knitted Nylon pouch. Made entirely with new heat-resistant rubber! Retains elasticity after repeated washings. Dries quickly, lasts longer.



BIKE NO. 10 SUPPORTER

Form-fit knitted cotton and rayon pouch, softer, more flexible. Full lateral waistband stretch of seam. Selvaged edges minimize rolling and curling. 3" waistband, 1" leg bands, with inlaid rubber.



BIKE "STRAP" SUPPORTER

Sturdy, long-lasting, unusually comfortable. Woven all-elastic pouch gives extra firm support. Crutch construction gives added comfort. 1" leg bands; 3" waistband.



BIKE NO. 105 SUPPORTER

A popular priced supporter of all-woven, regular Bike elastic. Provides adequate support with comfort. An excellent value, with 3" waistband, 1" leg straps.



BIKE NO. 9 SUPPORTER

The only supporter of its kind! Combines comfort features of Bike's famous knitted pouch with wide, extra support of 6" waistband. Inlaid with new heat-resistant rubber. Retains elasticity after repeated washings!



BIKE NO. 86 SUPPORTER

Wide 6" waistband for extra support. One-piece woven all-elastic pouch 6" wide. Made of high-quality long-stretch elastic throughout. 1" leg straps.



BIKE NO. 59 SUPPORTER

For light exercise, everyday wear. 1" waistband, 1" leg bands. Particularly suitable for swimming. Sheds water, dries quickly, allows full lateral stretch.



BIKE NO. 15 SUPPORTER

All black, especially designed for wrestlers. 5-inch heavy woven waistband stands exceptional wear and strain. Sturdy pouch is knitted for greater comfort, freedom from chafing.



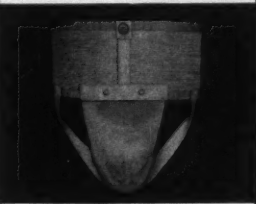
NO. 10 LITTLE LEAGUE

The Bike No. 10 Little League approved Supporter is specially designed for little leaguers. Form-fit knitted cotton and rayon pouch. Inlaid rubber in 3" waistband and 1" leg bands maintains tension. Approved by Little League Baseball Inc. Size 20"-26".



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A really comfortable cup supporter. Specially constructed pouch forms tube. No rough edges to irritate. Unbreakable snaps hold pouch to 3" waistband, make it easy to insert cup and cushion. Also sized and approved for Little Leaguers! Size 20"-26".



BIKE NO. 54 CUP SUPPORTER

Special pouch formed like a tube shields wearer against irritation. Unbreakable snaps fasten pouch to specially constructed 6" waistband — easy to insert cup and cushion. Unusually comfortable.



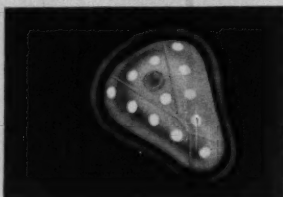
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Bike No. 50 Cup with rubber cushion attached is made of tough featherweight Tenite Plastic offering greater comfort and safety than ever before! Also sized and approved for Little League.

Supporter sizes: Small (26-32) Medium (32-38) Large (38-44)

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for Protection • for Support • for Comfort



BIKE NO. 49 CUP

A sturdy, lightweight cup made of magnesium for vital protection in contact sports.
BIKE NO. 48 CUSHION attached, made of springy, porous rubber for maximum comfort and protection. Fits all standard cups. Removable for sanitary purposes.



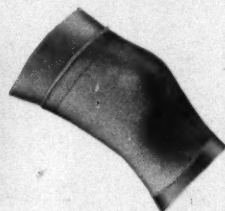
BIKE NO. 65-C KNEE PAD

5 colors: Scarlet, Gold, Kelly Green, Royal Blue, Black. Pad same construction as No. 65. Washable, preshrunk, colors won't run. Wonderful protection and a smart way to match uniforms.



BIKE NO. 65 KNEE PAD

Absorbs shocks to knees and elbows. A 1/2" thick foam rubber pad is enclosed between two layers of knitted webbing. Stretches, flexes with knee or elbow movement. Tapered to follow natural contours. Three sizes—S, M, L.



BIKE NO. 99 KNEE CAP

The No. 99 is knitted without seams, thus eliminating separation of rubber and fabric and increasing its ability to withstand repeated laundering. Specially finished top and bottom insures extra-long wear.



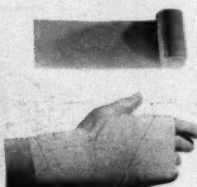
BIKE NO. 60 KNEE BRACE

New long Bike Knee Brace protects and supports completely! Only knee brace leather-padded inside and out. Fully elastic (in-laid with new heat-resistant rubber), seamless. Full range steel supports built-in. Sm., med., lge.



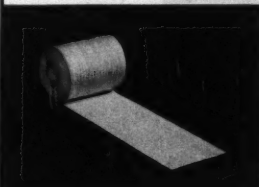
BIKE NO. 88 ANKLET

An unusually soft and pliable knitted garment made without seams or welts. The seamless construction and specially finished edges allow comfortable wear for the user.



BIKE ANKLE AND HAND WRAP

No. 44 has selvage edges, non-ravel ends! Closely-woven, herringbone weave cotton 2 1/4" wide by 2 yds. long. Withstands repeated launderings. No. 45 with tails on end for tying. No. 46, 36 yards long. No. 47, 72 yards.



BIKE CHARLEY HORSE WRAP

A 3" wide strip of elastic webbing out 8 feet long (unstretched). Covered natural rubber, fine cotton yarn. Very effective treatment when applied over a heat pack or when heavy, sturdy support is needed.



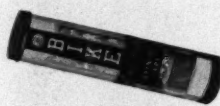
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Ideal for sprains, torn muscles, dislocations. Woven with live rubber thread, TENSOR exerts even, controlled pressure, is easy to apply. Available in 2" to 6" widths, 5 1/2 yards long when stretched.



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Bike Formula 87 is the highest quality Trainers tape obtainable. The high tensile strength of its extra sturdy back-cloth makes it ideal for taping to protect or prevent injuries during drills or actual play.



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Bike Zinc Oxide Trainers Tape is compounded with the highest grade adhesive mass and slightly lighter back-cloth than Formula 87, giving it more flexibility. Gives greater economy in taping for support and protection off the playing field.



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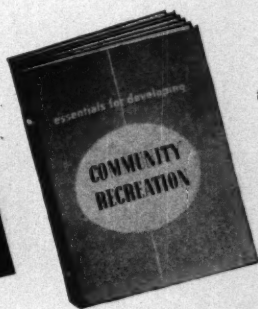
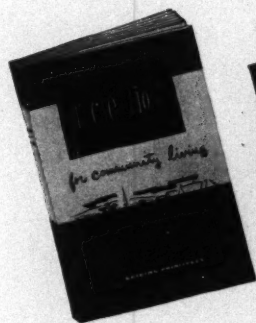
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